

The TEST of Love

TEST series 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Chris Mueller

Introduction:

John 13:34–35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

1 John 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

Romans 13:8–10 Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

#1 The _____ of Love 1-3

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

Verse 1 The priority of love in _____

Verse 2 The priority of love in _____

Verse 3 The priority of love in _____

#2 The _____ of Love 4-7

1 John 4:7–8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

1st How love relates to _____

4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous

PATIENT

KIND

NOT JEALOUS

2nd How love relates to _____

4 love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own

NOT BRAG

NOT ARROGANT

ACT UNBECOMINGLY

SEEK ITS OWN

3rd How love relates to _____

5 is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered

6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth

NOT PROVOKED

DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT A WRONG SUFFERED

NOT REJOICE IN UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH

4th How love relates to _____

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

BEARS ALL THINGS

BELIEVES ALL THINGS

HOPES ALL THINGS

ENDURES ALL THINGS

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

#3 The _____ of Love 8-12

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

Love is permanent, and certain sign gifts are not

9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

1st The word *perfect* refers to the BIBLE

2nd The word *perfect* refers to the SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

11 When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.

#4 The _____ of Love 13

13 But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.

TAKE HOME:

Philippians 1:9 May your love abound still more and more.

1 Thessalonians 3:9-10 Now as to the love for the brethren...we urge you to excel still more.

A - Love is not an _____, but an action

B - _____ is needed for Christians to love

C - Love is selfless sacrifice for the _____ of others

D - The Bible declares love to be the most _____

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why is love so misunderstood today by both believer and non-believer?
2. Why is LOVE a priority in the ministry of the church?
3. In a sentence, describe true biblical love and give three examples of how you have seen it this last week.
4. Why does Paul make a point of saying that LOVE IS PERMANENT and sign gifts are not?
5. Why is love pre-eminent over other qualities like faith and hope? How should that look in your life and in our church?
6. What steps are you going to take this week to be more loving?