

Selfless love

1 Corinthians 13:1-7, p. 932

I. MY SPIRITUAL GIFTS MUST BE PAIRED WITH SELFLESS LOVE (1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-3).

- A. A spiritual gift can be annoying without love (13:1).
- B. A spiritual gift can be impressive but meaningless without love (13:2).
- C. A spiritual gift can be sacrificial but meaningless without love (13:3).

II. SELFLESS LOVE MEANS LIVING RADICALLY DIFFERENT- LIKE CHRIST (1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7; PHILIPPIANS 2:4-8).

- A. ME: To truly love I must deal with being self-centered (13:4-6).
 - Patient/kind – Patiently enduring offence, and showing kindness instead of retaliation
 - Not jealous/boast – Not jealous of those given applause nor calling attention to what I do well
 - Not proud/rude – Not trying to look good, and not making others look bad
 - Not self-seeking/easily angered – Not insisting on my way or reacting in anger when not getting my way
 - No record of wrongs/not rejoicing in evil, but truth – Not bitter; not enjoying others consequences, but truth
- B. OTHERS: To truly love I change how I think of others (13:7).
 - Always endures – Endures what is difficult about others
 - Always believes – Gives the benefit of the doubt to others
 - Always hopes – Has a vision for the future of others
 - Always perseveres – Doesn't easily give up on others