

5 2 W E E K S  
O F G R O W T H

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*Give it a Year*  
*Week 17*



# WEEK 17

## 1 Corinthians 13: 8-13

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“Love never fails.

But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”

This is our last week specifically addressing the topic of love and breaking apart 1 Corinthians 13. As you may have learned over these last several weeks, love is the basis of everything in this Christian walk. Love is always the underlying theme in each devotional. Why? Because God is love. God's love for us is the tone of the entire Bible.

The scripture above says, "Love never fails". These 3 words may resonate an array of emotions in you. Your thoughts may immediately take you to a place in your past where you actually felt like love did fail. And the world will show you 1000's of example that love is not eternal. But this isn't God's love. God's love is eternal. God's love will never fail.

The world will have us chase after a superficial type of love to be desired and needed for a complete life. The world will encourage us to fall into and out of this type of love as often as we please. But God's love is different and that's the type of love that we need to learn. And it's a continual daily choice to grow to learn this type of love. It's a continual daily choice to grow and decide to put all the childish behavior and thoughts behind us and grab onto all that God has for you.

All these things of this world are fleeting. Our bodies will fail, our minds will fail, our gifts will fail, but love will never fail. Patient, humble, kind, generous, calm, peaceful, joyful, considerate, trustworthy, protective, hopeful love will never fail. (1 Corinthians 13: 4-7)

And if we only see part of the picture of who God created us to be, these 3 things remain: faith, hope, and love. Faith will one day become sight. Hope will one day be fulfilled. But love is eternal and the greatest of these. Love is the nature of God therefore our promise is to one day be forever surrounded by His love. What a glorious day that will be – face to face and living in this abiding love in Heaven.

### READ:

1 Corinthians 13

1 John 4:7-12

Mark 12: 28-31

### REFLECT:

- How has your definition of love begun to change over these past several weeks? What have you learned and what are you having to unlearn?
- Have you noticed any changes in you since reading 1 Corinthians 13 every week this past month?
- What do you find that you tend to cling to that is temporary or fleeting?
- What is one opportunity this week that you can show selfless love?

### PRAYER:

Father God, Thank You for the gift of Your love. A love that never fails, never ends, and never gives up on me. Teach me, Lord, to love like You do, with patience, kindness, humility, and grace. Help me to not chase after what is temporary and what the world says will fulfill me but guide me to build my life after the things that will last. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.