

# RELATIONSHIP RESCUE

## THE LIFELINE OF LOVE

1 Corinthians 13:1 – 8 (ESV)

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### MESSAGE NOTES

*If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. – 1 Corinthians 13:1 – 3 (ESV)*

- **Love understands the need for patience and kindness**

*Love is patient and kind ... – 1 Corinthians 13:4 (ESV)*

*And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. – Philippians 1:6 (ESV)*

*So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. – John 20:3 – 4 (ESV)*

*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." – John 3:16 (NAS)*

*... It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil ... – 1 Corinthians 13:4 – 6 (NIV)*

*... but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. – 1 Corinthians 13:6 – 7 (NIV)*

- **Love understands the need for forgiveness**

*It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. – 1 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)*

*God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. – 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)*

- **Love understands the need for endurance**

*It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. – 1 Corinthians 13:7 (NIV)*

*For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:38 – 39 (ESV)*

# RELATIONSHIP RESCUE

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: If you had to summarize the definition of love in our world today, how would you describe it?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:1 – 8. What was one of your greatest insights or reminders from this passage on love?
- Why is understanding the love of Christ for us so important when trying to bring love into a difficult relationship dynamic?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:1 – 3. Why do gifts, skills and even things like sacrifice only go so far without love at their core?
- Read the beginning of 1 Corinthians 13:4 and Philippians 1:6. Why does patience and kindness set the pace when it comes to loving people, especially in relationship challenges?
- Read the beginning of 1 Corinthians 13:7. Why are kindness and protection such important building blocks for loving relationships?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:5 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. Why are forgiveness and grace key elements of any relationship rescue scenario? Why and how is forgiveness at the heart of our relationship with God?
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:7 and Romans 8:37 – 39. Why are durability and endurance so important in loving others? How does Christ demonstrate that for us?