



Discussion Guide

April 15, 2018

Contrast: A Crazy Little Thing Called Love

I Corinthians 13

Introduction: I Corinthians 13

The Christians in Corinth were going through the motions of their faith, but something was missing and causing disunity among them. They were very gifted by the Holy Spirit in miraculous ways, but as they displayed these gifts in worship, their actions were self-serving. [see chapters 12 and 14] Sandwiched between those two chapters Paul is emphasizing that worship life and life in Christ should be driven by love from God and for God – and then love for others. Operating out of pride, or jealousy, or selfish gain turns us into noisy gongs and clanging symbols. If we are not moved by love, we lose our contrast with a world that doesn't know God.

Discussion Questions

1. Aside from loving God and your family, best and most – what would be the top 5 things in life that you would say you love the most. [these don't have to be “spiritual” answers. Krispy Kreme doughnuts is a very legitimate answer.]

2. As you read verses 4-8a, you see 16 descriptions of agape love in action. How do these descriptions play out in your everyday life, either in ways that are becoming true of you, or in ways that you struggle with?

- Love is patient or slow to become angry, quick to turn and adversary to a friend.
- Love is kind or finds useful ways to meet other's needs.
- Love is not jealous or envious of others.
- Love does not brag and is not arrogant.
- Love is not rude.
- Love does not seek its own or is not selfish.



- Love is not easily provoked to anger.
- Love does not take into account a wrong suffered, is not easily offended.
- Love does not rejoice in unrighteous failures in others, but rejoices when others find the truth or repent of failure and are restored.
- Love bears all things, or provides cover and protection for the reputation of others.
- Love believes all things or love is more willing to trust than to be suspicious.
- Love hopes all things or carries a great optimism for the future of others and expresses that to them.
- Love endures all things – hangs on to faith and love during times of great adversity, and helps others do the same.
- Love never fails, it is never the wrong thing to do.

Moving Forward in loving practical ways this week:

Tangibly love someone in your home and family this week – say it, do it
Love somebody within the Parkside family who has a need you can meet.
Love someone in a useful way, someone who is admittedly hard to love.
Speak of the love of God with somebody this week – at least one person.