

Women's Bible Study
Study Questions for March 29, 2017
Unity in Love ~ Angie Pankratz
1 Corinthians 13

Even though it is a familiar passage, please read 1 Corinthians 13. If you are able, read through it a second time in the NLT or The Message Bible.

1. 1 Cor. 12:31 serves as a bridge between chapters 12 and 13. Why is it so necessary to exercise your spiritual gifts with love? What would the negative impact be if you don't have love when you use your spiritual gift?

2. Read 1 John 4:7-8. What are the startling statements that can be inferred from those verses? Do you think it is possible to be a believer without love? Do you think it is possible to be an unbeliever with genuine love?

3. Read Luke 6:32-36. Who are we to love? How does this make 1 Cor. 13 even more challenging?

4. Which statement about love in verses 4-7 convicts you the most right now in your spiritual journey? What steps can you take in developing that aspect of love?

5. Look back at 1 Corinthians 12:7. Now look again at 1 Corinthians 13:8-12. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts? Why then will they come to an end? Why does love not come to an end?

6. Read John 13:34-35 and 1 John 3:10. How does our love for others serve as a witnessing tool to those who do not know God? What devastating impact could there be on the lost if we (the Church) do not love?

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Even though it is a familiar passage, please read 1 Corinthians 13.

1. Before we get going on 1 Cor. 13, write down the last sentence from chapter 12. Why do you think it is vital to consider chapter 13 a continuation of chapter 12? What is one of your spiritual gifts? What would it be like if you practiced your gift without love?

2. Of all the "if" statements Paul lists in the first three verses of chapter 13, which one do you think is the most impressive? Do you think it's possible to do those things without love? Please explain.

3. Read 1 John 4:8. What do you think it means to say that God is love? Try substituting "God" for "love" in chapter 13. Does it change the meaning for you? Does it work to substitute your name for "love" in that chapter?

4. Of all the statements made about love in verses 4-7, which one is the most challenging for you? When do you find it most difficult to be loving?

5. Looking at 1 Cor. 13:13 what three attributes remain? Which one is the greatest of all and why do you think that is?