

Adult Sunday School

September 7, 2008

The Great Acts of Love

Text: **I Cor. 13:4**

Prov. 10:12; I Pt. 4:8

- Love has a disposition that neither circumstances, difficulties nor trials can ever reach.
- A humble submission to the will of God.
- A true love will trust God.

I. The Nature of Love Illustrated

A. Love Exercised

1. Long Suffering *I Cor. 13:4*

a. A state of mind that can bear long

b. The mind of God

Ex. 34:6 Rom. 2:4 I Pt. 3:20

Nu. 14:18 Rom. 9:22 II Pt. 3:9,15

Ps. 86:15 I Tim. 1:16 Col. 3:12-14

Jer. 15:15

c. The mind of a Christian

Handling the negative side of love

II Cor. 6:6; Eph. 4:2; Col. 1:11; 3:12-14;

II Tim. 3:10; II Tim. 4:2

- d. The fruit of the Spirit
Gal. 5:22 – longsuffering

2. Kind *I Cor. 13:4*

- a. A state of mind that is useful and creates no trouble.
- b. The mind of God
Luke 6:35; Eph. 2:7; Titus 3:4
Ps. 31:21 Marvelous
Is. 54:8 Everlasting
Ps. 117:2 Merciful
Joel 2:13 Great
- c. The mind of a Christian handling the positive side of love
Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:12; II Peter 1:7
- d. The fruit of the the Spirit
Gal. 5:22 – (kindness) gentleness – goodness
- e. ‘chrestos’

<i>Matt. 11:30</i>	<i>easy</i>
<i>Eph. 4:32; Luke 6:35</i>	<i>kind</i>
<i>Rom. 2:4</i>	<i>goodness</i>
<i>I Cor. 15:33</i>	<i>good</i>
<i>I Peter 2:3</i>	<i>gracious</i>

3. Envieth not *I Cor. 13:4*

True love never envies the happiness of others that they enjoy.

- a. A state of mind that is always willing to prefer others before themselves without grief, shyness, or laziness.
- b. The mind of God is opposite of envy.
II Cor. 11:2 – There is a godly jealousy

Ex. 20:5; 34:14	Joel 2:18
Deut. 4:24; 5:9; 6:15	Nah. 1:2
Josh. 24:19	Zech. 1:14; 8:2
Ezek. 39:25	

- c. The mind of a Christian that wants the best for everyone and never wishes ill for anyone.

- d. Suppresses envy
Gal. 5:24

1) Crucifies the flesh with the affections and lusts (passions)

2) Envy is the work of the flesh

<i>Gal. 5:21</i>	Envy
<i>Gal. 5:20</i>	Emulations

4. Vaunteth not itself *I Cor. 13:4*

- a. A state of mind that is not rash, hasty, or proud.
- b. The mind of God is that God is above all and there is none like Him.

- c. The mind of the Christian desires that God be all in all.

I Cor. 12:6	worketh all in all
I Cor. 15:28	be all in all
Eph. 1:23	filleth all in all
Col. 3:11	Christ is all and in all

- d. A work of the flesh

vaunteth – boasting
Gal. 5:21 – *and such like*

- 5. Is not puffed up

‘puffed up’ – inflated with pride, vanity, and self esteem

- a. A state of mind that is not inflated with a sense of preeminence.

Pride is the essence of sin.

Humility is the true sense when filled up with God.

- b. The mind of God is wrath toward pride.
II Chr. 32:26; Mat 23:12; Lk 14:11; 18:14
- c. The mind of the Christian is filled with humility.
Phil. 2:5-11; I Pt. 4:1; James. 4:10;
I Pt. 5:6
- d. Suppresses self-applauding and undervaluing of others.