

Practicing Love.

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

The Message Bible (Version 1)	The NASB (Version 2)
<p>If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate.</p> <p>² If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing.</p> <p>³⁻⁷ If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.</p> <p>Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first," Doesn't fly off the handle, Doesn't keep score of the sins of others, Doesn't revel when others grovel, Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, Puts up with anything, Trusts God always, Always looks for the best, Never looks back, But keeps going to the end.</p> <p>⁸⁻¹⁰ Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day; praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit. We know only a portion of the truth, and what we say about God is always incomplete. But when the Complete arrives, our incompletes will be canceled.</p>	<p>If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have <i>the gift of prophecy</i>, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give all my possessions to feed <i>the poor</i>, and if I surrender my body ^[a] to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.</p> <p>⁴ Love is patient, love is kind <i>and</i> is not jealous; love does not brag <i>and</i> is not arrogant, ⁵ does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong <i>suffered</i>, ⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; ⁷ ^[b] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.</p> <p>⁸ Love never fails; but if <i>there are gifts of</i> ^[c] prophecy, they will be done away; if <i>there are tongues</i>, they will cease; if <i>there is</i> knowledge, it will be done away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I ^[d] became a man, I did away with childish things. ¹² For now we see in a mirror ^[e] dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. ¹³ But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the ^[f] greatest of these is love.</p>