

Love like Jesus: Love is...

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 25, 2018

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. 12 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

4 forms of Love in Greek:

- Philia (love between friends)
- Storge (love between parents and children)
- Eros (erotic, sexual love)
- Agape (unconditional love of God)

1 Cor 13 uses the word Agape 9 times in 13 verses.

The unconditional Love of God is...

1. PATIENT

1 Cor 13:

4 Love is patient... (long-suffering)

The unconditional Love of God is...

2. KIND

1 Cor 13:

4 ... love is kind.

Rom 2:4

... God's kindness leads you toward repentance.

The unconditional Love of God is...

3. TRUTHFUL

1 Cor 13:

6 Love ... rejoices with the truth.

The unconditional Love of God is...

4. GREATEST

1 Cor 13:

8 ... where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. 11-12 ... 13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.