

**Greater Life Church South***"Loving and Leading People to a Greater Life"*

Pastor Nate Stewart, Lead Servant

The Year of Awakening**Awake. Arise. Advance.**

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Church Hurt: What Holds Us Together?

1 Corinthians 13:1–8 NASB

1 If I speak with the tongues of mankind and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. **2** If I have the gift of prophecy 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 away all my possessions to charity, and if I surrender my body so that I may glory, but do not have love, it does me no good. **4** Love is patient, love is kind, it is not jealous; love does not brag, it is not arrogant. **5** It does not act disgracefully, it does not seek its own benefit; it is not provoked, does not keep an account of a wrong suffered, **6** it does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; **7** it keeps every confidence, it believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Theme: Love on Display**Objective:** Christian Love should show in all we do**Introduction**

Jesus calls His followers to make His love visible in how they treat one another

John 13:34–35

Paul addressed this same need in the Corinthian church. In 1 Corinthians 13, he shows that spiritual gifts and service cannot replace love, then describes the love that should be displayed in the church.

MAIN POINT:

God's love in the Church shows best in how we treat people



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1. Spiritual _____ does not excuse _____ treatment 1 Corinthians 13:1–3

Paul says powerful gifts, generous giving, and costly sacrifice amount to nothing when love is absent. A church may look productive and still fail to embody love. Love is not optional in the Christian life; it gives every gift and act of service its purpose and makes them reflect Christ.

• Noise, Nothing, No Gain. — 1 Corinthians 13:1–3 NKJV

1. Tongues without love become noise.
2. Prophecy without love may sound anointed, but it can become annoying.
3. Knowledge without love makes us smart with no heart.
4. Mountain-moving faith without love still leaves us with nothing.
5. Giving everything without love gains nothing

Mathew 5:16 NKJV

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Point 2: Love shows in how we _____ each other — 1 Corinthians 13:4–8

Paul describes love through concrete actions and attitudes: patience, kindness, humility, honor, truth, and endurance. This passage gives the church a standard to examine, not a reason to minimize harm or demand that someone tolerate it.

• Love is visible in ordinary conduct — 1 Corinthians 13:4–8 NKJV

1. Love is patient and kind.
2. Love does not envy, boast, or act arrogantly.
3. Love does not dishonor others, insist on its own way, or quickly give in to anger.
4. Love does not rejoice in wrongdoing; it rejoices in the truth.



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1 Peter 3:8 NKJV

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;

Point 3: Love should _____ us as followers of Jesus — John 13:34-35

Jesus made love for one another an identifying mark of His disciples. The church does not only proclaim Christ through what we preach and believe; we represent Him through the way we treat people. When Christian conduct reflects Christlike love, it strengthens our witness. When our conduct contradicts our message, it can distort the picture of Jesus others see.

• Love should make Jesus recognizable — John 13:34–35 NKJV

1. Jesus made love the identifying mark of His disciples.
2. Jesus is not calling us to generic love, but Christlike love.—He says, “as I have loved you.”
3. How we treat one another says something about the Jesus we represent.
4. Church hurt becomes especially serious when the church proclaims Christ’s love but fails to demonstrate it.
5. Christlike love moves us toward truth, accountability, healing, and restoration when someone has been hurt.

1 Peter 3:8

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| admin@greaterlifed.org| www.greaterlifed.org**Conclusion:** God's love in the church shows best in how we treat people.**Lets Ask Ourselves:**

1. Where might our church need to bring its practice more in line with the love we proclaim?
2. What is one truthful, caring step we can take?