

All I Want for Christmas

Part 3: Love

Pastor Dave Creek — Dec. 10, 2023



Please take a moment and read these Scripture passages together as a group.

Matthew 22:26-40

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have 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 do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have 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 does not dishonor others, 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 completeness comes, what is in part 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 the ways of childhood behind me. 12 For now we see only a 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.

Group Discussion

How do you see the concept of love layered in these passages?

How do you love your neighbor with the kind of love described in 1 Corinthians 13?

The first few verses of 1 Cor. 13 describe doing big things for God, but how they don't matter if we don't have love. Have you ever done this? Has there been a time in your life where you did big things for God, but didn't walk in love?

How have you walked out the love of God in your life this week?

If Jesus said, in John 13:35 that the world will know we are in him by our love for one another, are we giving them a clear view of him?

How do you check your motives in your relationships in regard to love?

How can our group pray for you?