

Love's Reflection
1 Corinthians 13:1-13



**Which Reflection is
Real?**



The Mirror

- **James 1:22-25** - ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Christian Love

- **1 Corinthians 13:1-7** - If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.
⁴ **Love** is patient and kind; **love** does not envy or boast; **it** is not arrogant⁵ or rude. **It** does not insist on **its** own way; **it** is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ **it** does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ **Love** bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Words Have Meaning

- **1 Corinthians 13:1** - If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

It is not What You Say, but How You Say it

- **Colossians 4:5-6** - Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.
- **Ephesians 4:29** – Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.
- **1 Peter 3:15-16** - but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

A Loving Faith

- **1 Corinthians 13:2** - And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Sacrifice of Love

- **1 Corinthians 13:3** - If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love in Action

- **1 Corinthians 13:4-7** - Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Patience and Kindness Go Hand in Hand

- **Galatians 6:9** - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
- **Colossians 3:12** - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience

Do Not Envy or Boast

- **Matthew 20:26-28** - It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”
- **Galatians 6:14** - But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (NKJV)



Christian

World

Patient

Envy

Kind

Boast

Rejoices in Truth

Arrogant/Rude

Bears All Things

Rude

Believes All Things

Insist on Own Way

Hopes in All Things

Irritable

Endures All Things

Resentful

Love Never Ends

- **1 Corinthians 13:8-10** - Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

Maturity and Discipline

- **1 Corinthians 13:11-12** - When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

Greatest of These is Love

- **1 Corinthians 13:13** - So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Always pray to have
eyes that see the
best in people,
A heart that forgives
the worst,
A mind that forgets
the bad,
And a soul that NEVER
loses faith in God.