

# *BIBLICAL LOVE*

- **AGAPE...unselfish giving**

*John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

*1 John 4:7 - ...let us love one another, for love is from God...*

*1 John 4:8, 16 - 8 The one who does not love does not know God, for **God is love**. ... 16 We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. **God is love**, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.*

*1 Cor 13:4-7*

**1 Cor 13:4 – *love is PATIENT...***

*Exo 34:6 - Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, **slow to anger...***

Patience in respect to PERSONS.

Doesn't retaliate...and doesn't revile (1 Pet 2:22).

Rom 12:21; Eph 4:32

1 Cor 13:4 – *love is KIND...*

*Phil 2:3–4 - 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.*

J. R. MILLER: *Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your affection sealed and laid away until your friends are dead. Fill their days with tenderness. Speak your words of commendation while their ears can hear them.*

***Rom 2:4** - Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?*

1 Cor 13:4 – *love is NOT JEALOUS...*

*zeloo – to boil...to seethe...to be hot*

1 Cor 12:31 – ... *earnestly desire the greater gifts.*



GEORGE MATHESON: *Christian love is the only kind of love in which there is no rivalry, no jealousy. The glory of natural love is its monopoly...but the glory of Christian love is its refusal of monopoly.*

**1 Cor 13:4 – *love DOES NOT BRAG...***

From a noun meaning ‘a braggart’... ‘a windbag.’

***1 Cor 15:10 - by the grace of God I am what I am...***

*Psa 34:2 - My soul shall make its **boast** in the Lord...*

*Ps 44:8 - In God we have **boasted** all day long...*

*1 Cor 1:31 - Let him who **boasts**, **boast** in the Lord...*

Paul gloried in the *cross* (*Gal 6:14*)...in the *Lord* (*1 Cor 1:31*)...in *tribulation* (*Rom 5:3*)...in *infirmities* (*2 Cor 12:9*).

Paul left His reputation and His results completely in the hands of God – *1 Pet 2:23*.

**1 Cor 13:4 – *love DOES NOT BRAG...***

The term itself (*phusiow*) means ‘to blow up’... ‘to inflate.’

In the middle voice, it means ‘to puff oneself up.’

***Prov 6:16–17 - 16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes...***

***Rom 12:3 - ... I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think...***

***Matt 23:12** - Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever **humbles** himself shall be exalted.*

***James 4:10** - **Humble** yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.*

## 1 Cor 13:4 – *love DOES NOT ACT UNBECOMINGLY..*

The Greek term means *misshapen...ugly...shameful...base*.

It conveys the idea of *rudeness...ill-mannered or insulting conduct...behavior that is indecent...or even crude*.

*Eph 5:4 - and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.*

## 1 Cor 13:4 – *love DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN...*

– *Love does not insist on its own way...or...love never seeks its own advantage...or...love does not claim its rights.*

*Phil 2:3-4 - Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not {merely} look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.*

*Matt 20:28 - ...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*



***Prov 14:26** - In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, and His children will have refuge.*

***Prov 3:26** - For the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being caught.*

***2 Cor 3:4** - And such confidence we have through Christ toward God.*

**1 Cor 13:4 – *love IS NOT PROVOKED...***

*Eph 4:26 - Be angry, and yet do not sin.*

1. Any dishonor to God the Father.
2. Any time men distorted or added to God's laws; anything That led to injustice and hypocrisy.
3. Any expressions of a lack of integrity in religious life.
4. 4. Inhumanity of man to man.

1. Sinful anger can be traced to personal disappointmen.
2. Sinful anger can be traced to irritated nerves.
3. Sinful anger can be traced to personally held traditions being violated.
4. Sinful anger can also be traced to disillusionment with another person.
6. Another sort of sinful anger finds its origin in unhealthy self-consciousness.

*Acts 17:16 - his spirit was being **provoked** within him.*

*Heb 10:24 - Let us **stir up** one another to love and good works.*

In *1 Cor 13* it is used in a negative sense to refer to not being roused to resentment...or to a bad temper.

It's not being *touchy*.

***Luke 9:23** - If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny  
himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**#1 – Since love is not jealous, there must be no spirit of competition amongst believers. What are some applications of that nuance?**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**#2 – What are some biblical examples of a jealousy, envy, or a spirit of competition?**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**#3 – What is wrong with *comparing self* to others? How does *comparing self* to others related to jealousy?**



## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**#4 – Practically speaking, what does humility look like?**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**#4 – What are some examples of being tactless?**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**#4 – Love does not seek its own – what is an application to marriage?**

