

Has anyone in your family ever asked...

Could Jesus love me if I really messed up? Would Jesus love me if I really messed up?



Every family struggles with...

- •Hurt
- Distrust
- Fear
- Anger
- Worry
- Disappointment



Luke 22

BUILT TO LAST

Having arrested Him [Jesus], they led Him [Jesus] away and brought Him to the house of the high priest; but [Simon] Peter was following at a distance. After they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter was sitting among them. Luke 22:54-55



And a servant-girl, seeing him [Simon Peter] as he sat in the firelight and looking intently at him, said, "This man was with Him too." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him." A little later, another saw him and said, "You are one of them too!" But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" After about an hour had passed, another man began to insist, saying, "Certainly this man also was with Him, for he is a Galilean too." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord [Jesus] turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him [in Luke 22:34], "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times." And he [Simon Peter] went out and wept bitterly. Luke 22:56-62

John 21

BUILT TO LAST

[After the resurrection of Jesus...]

So when they got out on the land, they [the disciples of Jesus] saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught." John 21:9-10



So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John [Jonah], do you love [ἀγάπη agape] Me more than these?" He [Simon Peter] said to Him [Jesus], "Yes, Lord; You know that I love [φιλέω phileo] You." He [Jesus] said to him [Simon Peter], "Tend My lambs." John 21:15



He [Jesus] said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John [Jonah], do you love [ἀγάπη agape] Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love [φιλέω phileo] You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." He [Jesus] said to him [Simon Peter] the third time, "Simon, son of John [Jonah], do you love [φιλέω phileo] Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love [φιλέω phileo] Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love [φιλέω phileo] You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep." John 21:16-17

- The agape love of Jesus brings me, a sinner, forgiveness and restoration.
- •My forgiveness and restoration should lead to my compassion for others who have messed up and experienced shame or hurt.

If I have been loved, how should I love?



Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love $[\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta \ agape]$ one another, even as I have loved [ἀγάπη agape] you, that you also love [ἀγάπη agape] one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love [ἀγάπη agape] for one another."

John 13:34-35

• New = καινός *kainos* = recent, fresh



If I am to love others as Jesus loved me, what does the agape love of Jesus look like?

1 Corinthians 13



If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love [ἀγάπη agape], I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 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 [ἀγάπη agape], I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape], it profits me nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3



Love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape] is patient, love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape] is kind and is not jealous; love [ἀγάπη agape] does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape] never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. 1 Corinthians 13:8-12

Patient μακροθυμέω makrothymeō

- Greek verb: to be patient, long-suffering
- will wait and wish for the reformation of the other
- will put up with many slights and neglects



Kind χρηστεύομαι chrēsteuomai

- Greek verb: ready to show favor and do good
- searches for opportunities to do good



Characteristics of Love in 1 Corinthians 13

Love is ἀγάπη agapē

Not jealous ζηλόω zēloō

- Greek verb: to be jealous
- not grieved at the good fortune of others
- "If we love our neighbor we shall be so far from envying his welfare, or being displeased with it, that we shall share in it and rejoice at it. His bliss and sanctification will be an addition to ours, instead of impairing or lessening it."

- Matthew Henry

Does not brag and is not arrogant

- περπερεύομαι perpereuomai
- Greek verb: to boast, brag
- φυσιόω physioō
- Greek verb: to make proud; puff up, arrogant
- not bloated with self-conceit
- not apt to despise others or trample on them



Does not act unbecomingly

- ἀσχημονέω aschēmoneō
- Greek verb: to behave dishonorably, unseemly
- minds one's own business
- does not pass the bounds of decency



Does <u>not</u> seek its own

- ζητέω *zēteō*
- Greek verb: to desire; seek; look for
- never seeks one's own glory to the hurt or neglect of others
- often neglects one's own praise for the sake of others



Is <u>not</u> provoked

- παροξύνω *paroxynō*
- Greek verb: to provoke; urge on
- never angry without a cause
- confines anger to proper limits



Does not take into account wrong suffered

- κακός kakos
- Greek noun: bad; evil; wrong
- not inclined to be suspicious or seek revenge
- will never indulge suspicion without proof
- does not keep score



Does not rejoice in unrighteousness

- ἀδικία adikia
- Greek noun: injustice; unrighteousness
- takes no pleasure in hurting others
- does not rejoice in the failings of others



Characteristics of Love in 1 Corinthians 13

Love is ἀγάπη agapē

Rejoices with the truth

- συγχαίρω synchairō
- Greek verb: to rejoice with
- ἀλήθεια alētheia
- Greek noun: truth
- glad of the success of others
- glad of the success of the gospel of Jesus
- delighted to see truth and justice prevail



Bears all things

- στέγω stegō
- Greek verb: to endure; bear; stand
- seeks not to publish the faults of others
- puts up with injuries without anger
- patient upon provocation



Believes all things

- •πιστεύω pisteuō
- Greek verb: to believe
- apt to believe well of all people
- apt to make the best of a bad situation



Hopes all things

- ἐλπίζω elpizō
- Greek verb: to hope; put one's hope
- hopes to find the best in others, even after they fail



Endures all things

- ὑπομένω hypomenō
- Greek verb: to endure
- to endure, bear bravely and calmly ill treatments
- puts up with injuries without anger



Characteristics of Love in 1 Corinthians 13

Love is ἀγάπη agapē

Love never fails

- πίπτω *piptō*
- Greek verb: to fall; fall down
- AV translates as "fall" 69 times, "fall down" 19 times, and "fail" once.
- to descend from a higher place to a lower
- permanent and perpetual grace



According to 1 Corinthians 13, Love [ἀγάπη agape]:

- is patient
- Is kind
- is not jealous
- does not brag
- is not arrogant
- does not act unbecomingly
- does not seek its own
- is not provoked
- does not take into account a wrong suffered

- does not rejoice in unrighteousness
- rejoices with the truth
- bears all things
- believes all things
- hopes all things
- endures all things
- never fails



How did Jesus demonstrate these 16 characteristics of God's love?

Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He [Jesus] would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved [ἀγάπη agape] them to the end. John 13:1

But God demonstrates His own love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape] toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Jesus loves us when we are unworthy of love



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

•When we love, we give... time, money, care, compassion, experience, knowledge



Beloved, let us love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape] one another, for love [ἀγάπη agape] is from God; and everyone who loves [ἀγάπη agape] is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love [ἀγάπη agape] does not know God, for God is love [ἀγάπη agape]. 1 John 4:7-8

•Love is not what God does, Love is what God is.



But now faith, hope, love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape], abide these three; but the greatest of these is love [$\dot{\alpha}\gamma\dot{\alpha}\pi\eta$ agape]. 1 Corinthians 13:13

• Love is an inner state that results in outward action. - Jewish New Testament Commentary



Can I really do this?

God's love expresses itself in acts of benevolence, kindness and mercy in which heart, mind and will are united because they are motivated and empowered by God. Such love goes beyond what one can generate of oneself, because it has its origin in God. When such love is experienced by one person from another, the experience is of God's love channeled through that other.

- Jewish New Testament Commentary



Followers of Jesus are called to be LOVED and then to LOVE.

Have you experienced the LOVE of the Savior by receiving the gift of salvation?

Are you ready to honor the Savior by giving His LOVE away?

