

## ***Let Love Reign In Your Relationships!***

### ***#RelationshipGoals God's Way! Pt.1***

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

September 18, 2016

**John 15:13**, *Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

**Romans 5:8**, *But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

### **Love Reigns In Our Relationships When We Understand:**

#### **1. Love's PREEMINENCE**

**1 Corinthians 13:1**, *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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.*

- **Love's Preeminence In SPEECH**

**1 Corinthians 13:1**, *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.*

- **Love's Preeminence In ATTITUDE**

**1 Corinthians 13:2**, *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.*

- **Love's Preeminence In ACTION**

**1 Corinthians 13:3**, *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.*

#### **2. Love's PROPERTIES**

**1 Corinthians 13:4**, *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

- **Love's Properties Concerning OTHERS**

**1 Corinthians 13:4**, *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy...*

- **Love's Properties Concerning ITSELF**

**1 Corinthians 13:4**, *...it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking...*

- **Love's Properties Concerning CIRCUMSTANCES**

**1 Corinthians 13:5**, *it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.*

**2 Corinthians 5:19**, *that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.*

**Proverbs 17:9**, *Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.*

- **Summary of Love's PROPERTIES**

**1 Corinthians 13:7**, *It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

**Ephesians 4:29**, *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen... <sup>31</sup>Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup>Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

### 3. Love's **PERMANENCE**

**1 Corinthians 13:8**, *Love never fails... <sup>13</sup>And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

**John 13:34**, *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”*

### **Cottonwood Challenge - Learning To Love:**

Study: Isaiah 5:20; Philippians 2:3-4; Matthew 20:28; Ephesians 5:33; Colossians 3:19; John 3:30

1. **Reflection**: Spend some time this week reflecting on how much Christ has loved you. How many times have you offended Him? How great have your offenses been?
2. **Expression**: Think about how you can show that same kind of unconditional love to those around you; your spouse, parents, children, friends, etc.
3. Find a LifeGroup@Home or @Church to grow your relationships God's way!