

Love / Marriage

I. Introduction

- A. What is the **most important command** for a Christian, for Marriage, for the Church?
- B. If love is eternal, **why do many marriages fail** (when partners thought they were “in love”)?
- C. If love is eternal, if it is one of the greatest feelings, **why do some stop loving their spouse?**
- D. Put in order the correct **priority of our love** (Friends, Spouse, Children, God, Other Family):
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- E. Why is it sometimes **harder to love your spouse than children?**
- F. Why is it even sometimes **harder for wives to love their husbands than children?**



II. What is Love? Definition

- A. **Webster's Dictionary:** "A deep and tender feeling of affection for or attachment or devotion to a person or persons."
- B. **Greek Words:**
 1. **Agape:** God's love or an **unconditional love.**
 2. **Phileo:** Brotherly, sisterly, or **friendship love.**
 3. **Eros:** Erotic, lustful, or **sexual love.**
- C. **Scripture (The Great Love Chapter)**
 1. **Read I Co. 13** (focus on verse 4-8a)
 2. **Write specific practical ways to express love** described below (Husbands/Wives)

	Love is...	Practical Specifics for Marriage
1	Long Suffering (Patient)	
2	Kind (Courteous, Obliging)	
3	NOT—Envious (Jealous; glad at other's failures)	
4	NOT—Vaunting itself (Boasting; pushing self)	
5	NOT—Puffed up (Proud)	
6	NOT—Behaving unseemly (Rude, vile, unbecoming)	
7	NOT—Seeking its own (Selfish)	
8	NOT—Easily provoked (Angered, exasperated)	
9	NOT—Thinking evil (Suspicious, vengeful)	
10	NOT—Rejoicing in iniquity (Wishing faults/ill)	
11	Rejoicing in the truth (Innocent cleared, Gospel)	
12	Bearing (covering) all things (Always protects)	

13	Believing all things (Trusting; thinks the best)	
14	Hoping all things (Hopeful)	
15	Enduring all things (Persevering)	
16	Never failing (Eternal)	

III. Application

- A. With God's help, will you promise again today to **never stop demonstrating your love** to your spouse and work on loving more?
- B. What **one aspect of love will you try to work on this week** with your spouse?