

**"The Fruit of the Spirit—LOVE
I've Got the Love of Jesus Down In My Heart"
Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 May 12, 2015
***Please register your ATTENDANCE
and Sign up for REFRESHMENTS. Thank you!
Prayer Requests & Opening Prayer**

Focus Question: How would you define “love”?

--Galatians 5:22-23.²² ...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, and self-control.

1. Which spiritual fruit is blossoming in your life? Which is still in the bud?

--1 Corinthians 13:4-13.⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part,¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

2. What is your favorite love song of all time? Can you recite some of the words?

3. When have you felt most loved in your life? When have you felt the most loving in your life?

4. In what ways has God loved you according to the qualities of love found in verses 4-8?

5. What have you done lately that is an example of this kind of love? What have you done that is *not* an example of this kind of love?

--1 Corinthians 13:1-3. 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.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.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.

6. Have you ever done a religious act without love? What was it like?

7. What would you say is the best way to develop the ability to love others?

8. In 1 Corinthians 13, how do verses 8-10 help you put your church life in perspective? Your personal life?

9. From verse 11, how has your faith changed from the time you were a child?

10. From verse 12, what does it mean that “we shall see face to face”?

11. How would you define “love”?

Closing Prayer: God, by your grace, teaches us to be patient and kind; not to envy, boast, or be proud; not to dishonor others or be self-seeking; not to be easily angered. Teach us to keep no record of wrongs and not to delight in evil but to rejoice with the truth. Teach us to always protect, trust, hope, and persevere. Through the power of Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.