



## WHAT IS LOVE?

ROMANS 12:6b-13 \* AUGUST 6, 2023

### SPIRITUAL GIFTS BREAK INTO FOUR INEXACT CATEGORIES

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7-11, 27-30; EPHESIANS 2:19-20, 4:11; 1 PETER 4:9-11

- ① \_\_\_\_\_ gifts (prophecy, teaching, exhortation, evangelism, pastor-teacher).
- ② \_\_\_\_\_ gifts (ruling, administration, discernment).
- ③ \_\_\_\_\_ gifts (giving, mercy, helps, hospitality).
- ④ \_\_\_\_\_ gifts (miracles, healing, tongues and their interpretation, faith, apostle, prophet, word of wisdom/knowledge, distinguishing of spirits).

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT LOVE ISN'T AND WHAT LOVE IS

MARK 12:28-34; JOHN 14:21; 1 JOHN 2:3-6; ROMANS 12:9-13

- ① Love is not a \_\_\_\_\_, an \_\_\_\_\_, nor is it \_\_\_\_\_.
- ② Love is a \_\_\_\_\_ followed by an \_\_\_\_\_.

### NOTICE HOW LOVE IS TIED TO TRUTH

- Love is \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 9a)
- Love is \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 9b)

- ③ This is what love in \_\_\_\_\_ looks like: (vv. 10-13)
  - Love subordinates \_\_\_\_\_ to the best interests of others.
  - It's the cure for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The staying power of love endures \_\_\_\_\_ by focusing on our \_\_\_\_\_ and on prayer.
  - In times of affliction, love toward the brethren will be \_\_\_\_\_ more than ever — and showing love will be more \_\_\_\_\_ and dangerous than ever.

### LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. What advice or counsel would you give to someone who wanted some practical wisdom on how to get along with others?
2. Read Romans 12:9-13. In verse 9, Paul speaks for the first time about our love for others. What is the source of our love for fellow Christians and non-Christians (see Romans 5:5).
3. How would being "devoted to one another in brotherly love" support and undergird all that we are called to be in this chapter? What do you think it means to "honor one another above yourselves" (verse 10)?
4. How would being "joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" affect your relationship with others? How can you practice hospitality and share with others who are in need?
5. Read John 15:9-17. Jesus' life here on earth has given us an incredible example of love in action. From this passage, list all it says about Jesus' actions to those who call themselves Christ followers. What part of this passage is the most helpful to you in what it means to live out His love?
6. How would the kind of love Paul describes in Romans 12:9-13 begin to transform our relationships with others? What are some of the ways that love — a fruit of the Spirit — should be plainly seen at work in the body of Christ?