

Growing Pains

1 Corinthians 12-13

³¹ ... And now I will show you the most excellent way.

Philippians 1:9-10 (NIV)

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,

¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ,

Psalms 103:11 (NIV)

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

Ephesians 3:17-19 (NIV)

¹⁷ ... And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,

¹⁸ may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NIV)

¹ Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children

² and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Mark 12:29-31 (NIV)

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Luke 6:27-36 (NIV)

²⁷ "But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic.

³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

³¹ *Do to others as you would have them do to you.*

³² *"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them.*

³³ *And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that.*

³⁴ *...*

³⁵ *But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.*

³⁶ *Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.*

1 John 4:7-12 (NIV)

⁷ *Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.*

⁸ *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

⁹ *This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

¹⁰ *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

¹¹ *Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

¹² *No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*

1 Corinthians 13:4-13 (NIV)

⁴ *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.*

⁵ *It is not rude, 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...*

¹³ *And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

1 John 4:8 (NIV)

⁸ *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

Without love life does not work.
Our everyday destination is love.