



WHAT LOVE *DOESN'T* DO.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

Overview

This is the first of a two-part discussion based on our message “What Love Does.” This discussion focuses on what love *doesn't* do.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Seven things love doesn't do:

1. Love doesn't brag (**v. 4**). What are you most proud of? Do you ever brag about it? Paul says that love neither brags nor is proud (“inflated”). Read James 4:6. How does God feel about the proud? How can pride, or bragging, block your love for others?
2. Love isn't rude (**v. 5**). This word can also mean “prickly” or “unshapely.” Can you be prickly around others? What causes this? How does this block your love for others?
3. Love isn't selfish (**v. 5**). Literally a “self-promoter.” The idea here is someone who is looking out for his or her own interests before the interests of others. Why does this block your ability to love? What steps can you take to be more active in the interests of others, even at the expense of your own? Read Philippians 2:4 and 1 Corinthians 10:24.
4. Love isn't easily angered (**v. 5**). How does anger block your love for others? What makes you mad? What are some steps you can take to overcome your anger? (i.e. pray, forgive, etc). Read Psalm 145:8 and James 1:19-20.
5. Love doesn't envy (**v. 4**). Literally “to boil.” Discuss the envy of Cain and Joseph's brothers. What did envy lead them to? How does envy block your love for others? What are some steps you can take to overcome envy?
6. Love doesn't hold grudges (**v. 5**). What kind of grudges do you keep? What things are you able to let go? Does Gold hold grudges (see Ephesians 4:32; Psalm 103:12; Luke 23:34). How does holding grudges block your ability to love? What grudges do you need to release?
7. Love isn't deceptive (**v. 6**). Paul wrote that we shouldn't rejoice in evil, which some have equated to being deceptive, or not rejoicing in the truth. How would that block your ability to love? In what ways do you need to be more truthful with those you love?