

LOVE

It's All in Your Mind...Attitude is Everything (Part 6)

I. ALL TRUTH AND NO LOVE IS BRUTALITY.

¹ *If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.*
1 Corinthians 13:1 (NASB)

Agape love – Selfless love, giving love, it's an act of the will.

² *If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.* 1 Corinthians 13:2 (NASB)

- **If you are the most spiritual person in the universe but don't have love going on, you have nothing.**

³ *And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.* 1 Corinthians 13:3 (NASB)

- **Love is a balance between affection and truth!**

Key: Truth is part of love and you're not really loving if speaking truth is not part of that relationship.

II. ALL LOVE AND NO TRUTH IS HYPOCRISY.

- **Love...**
 - ✓ **On the major things: Action**
 - ✓ **On the minor things: Acceptance**
 - ✓ **In all things: Love**

⁴ *does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;* 1 Corinthians 13:6 (NASB)

- **Three Things to Use to Determine What Are Major Things Where Love is Taking Action:**

- ✓ **Critical Path (if this is life-changing action)**
- ✓ **Chronic Problems (repeated actions)**
- ✓ **Close Proximity (if relationship close, love speaks up)**

III. HOW DOES LOVE TAKE ACTION?

Major Things: Action

⁵ *does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,*
1 Corinthians 3:5 (NASB)

“**Unbecomingly**” – Not rude, not aggressive

“**Not seek his own**” – To confront is not to soften the message but, in a gracious way, to get it said

“**Not provoked**” – Not getting into a verbal wrestling match

“**Take into account wrongs suffered**” – Not going to allow my feelings, to unload or vent

Minor Things: Acceptance

⁴ *Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,* 1 Corinthians 13:4 (NASB)

“**Patient**” – It waits for people to change, long-tempered, persistently compassionate in the face of opposition

“**Kind**” – Active, good will, finding ways to embrace those that we might choose to be critical of

⁷ *bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.* 1 Corinthians 13:7 (NASB)

“**Bears**” – Bears weight of misunderstanding

“**Believes**” – Defends the heart, believes the best

“**Hopes**” – Sees people not as they are but as they will be by God's grace

“**Endures**” – I'm there for you!

All Things: Love

⁸ *Love never fails; ...* 1 Corinthians 13:8 (NASB)

Questions:

- ❖ **Am I a loving person?**
- ❖ **Am I seeing the benefits of love in my life?**
- ❖ **Am I choosing love over criticism moment by moment?**