

# PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

## 1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 13:7

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-760 DECEMBER 11, 2011

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE

*DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE*

#### Part Four

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Love, Church, Gifts, Unity, Growth, Witness, God**

**Introduction to the Text: 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:7**

#### 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

**:4** Love suffers long *and* is kind; Love does not envy; Love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; **:5** does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; **:6** does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; **:7** (Love) **bears** all things, **believes** all things, **hopes** all things, **endures** all things.

### *Joy To The World*

## “FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE”

**1.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Humble**

**v.4**

#### 1 Corinthians 13:4

Love **suffers long** *and* is **kind**; love **does not** envy;  
love **does not** parade itself, is **not puffed up**;

## 2.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Consistent

v.5

### 1 Corinthians 13:5

does not **behave rudely**, does not **seek its own**,  
is **not provoked**, thinks **no evil**;

## “FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE”

*DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE*

## 3.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Pure

v.6

### 1 Corinthians 13:6

(Love) **does not** rejoice in iniquity, but **(but does)** rejoices in the truth;

**This is a theology not of the head, but of the heart.**

### Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman,  
born under the law,

### 1 Timothy 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the  
flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed  
on in the world, Received up in glory.

Perhaps there is no other time of the year that can be so dangerous to real true faith in Christ then the Christmas season. There is just enough Jesus, but not enough. There is just enough songs that are sung, but not enough. There is just enough zeal, but little true passion for all that His coming into the world deserves.

### John 3:15-19

Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. **:16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. **:17** For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **:18** “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **:19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

And that the refusal to apply His protection, His salvation to your life results in you continuing onward, headlong into peril...

### **In preparing for this study – meditating on these words**

*and what God is saying - - I now wonder that maybe, just maybe, when every man and woman who decides to reject the Gospel of His coming, Death and Resurrection stands someday before God at His terrible Great White Throne Judgement, that after seeing their sins paraded before them and the weight of them then tied around their ankles like ball and chain, that the last thing they see is the Absolute Love of God gazing fully at them as they are escorted away from His Love.*

## **“FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE”**

*DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE*

### **4.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Faithful**

**v.7**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

*(Love) bears all things, (Love) believes all things,*

### **Throughout This Study You Will See The Word “Things”**

I need you to keep an eye on that word. Because it's that word that represents the stuff of our lives. It's the moment by moment, day by day experiences of ours.



**things** grk – παῶν **pas, pas;**

all forms of thoroughly, whatsoever, whosoever, the whole sum of, each, every, any, all, the total, everything

But What *is* This Faithfulness?

**How** is faithfulness manifested toward us?

(by what has been **promised**. By what has **done**. By what is **anticipated**.)

## **“FINDING HIM WHO IS ALTOGETHER FAITHFUL”**

### **4a.) By His faithfulness He AWAKENS me to His love**

**1 Corinthians 13:7**  
(Love) **bears** all things,



**bears:** grk - *ste÷gw stego, steg'-o:*

to take up with the hands; to take up in order to carry or bear along; to put upon one's self someone in need of being carried; to bear what is in need of upholding; to carry off and away.

*It's in the "Present Active", meaning He's right now waiting to carry your burden.*

This Makes His Love a *Load-bearing* Love

**Deuteronomy 33:27**

The **eternal** God *is your refuge*, And **underneath** are the **everlasting** arms;

This **Bearing** Love of God - Is Our **Focus**

**1 Peter 5:6-7**

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **:7 casting** (*throw, toss*) all your care upon Him, for He **cares** (*devoted-interest*) for you.

And It **Bears** Things Like...

Our **grief** / Our **sorrow** / Our **pain** / Our **fears** / Our **cares** / Our **sins**

**Isaiah 53:4-5**

Surely He has **borne** our griefs And **carried** our sorrows... **:5** But He was wounded for our transgressions, *He was bruised* for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was **upon** Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

**Luke 23:33-34**

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. **:34** Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

**So How Are We As Christians To Live This Out Today?**

**Galatians 6:2**

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Charles Spurgeon Writes:

There is the positive and the negative to this word meaning. (-) that His Great Love will not retaliate when offended. (+) it means that His Great Love takes on the full force of sin's ugly attack and It shoulders it all.

**“FINDING HIM WHO IS ALTOGETHER FAITHFUL”**

**4b.) By His faithfulness He GUIDES me through this life**

**1 Corinthians 13:7**

(Love) **believes** all things,



**believes** *pisteu/w pisteuo*, *pist-yoo´o*; to have faith. To grant or extend credit to. To deploy, extend, put forward the best thought first. **(not suspicious)**

Again Spurgeon Writes:

Should a Christian stumble or fall in the heat of battle, This kind of Love looks upon the wounded one with thoughts of *(Just how mean and terrible the battle must have been to wound one of His own)*

**Psalms 103:13-14**

As a father pities *his* children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him. **:14** For He knows our frame; He remembers that we *are* dust.

**This Believing Love of God – Is Our Compass**

**Psalms 32:8**

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;  
I will guide you with My eye.

And It **Believes** Things Like...

**Joshua 1:5**

No man shall *be able to* stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.

**So How Are We As Christians To Live This Out Today?**

Greet Each Other in The Envelope/Context of Love.

**Colossians 1:13**

He has delivered **us** from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

God's Love is not suspicious or cynical. He Loves in such a way that He wants to see us progress and to develop. He is in support of us.

**“FINDING HIM WHO IS ALTOGETHER FAITHFUL”**

**4c.) By His faithfulness He FINISHES His work in me**

**1 Corinthians 13:7**  
(Love) **hopes** all things,



**hopes** ejlpi÷zw **elpizo**, *el-pid´-zo*;

to wait with **expectation** and full **assurance** of or for salvation. Waiting with full joy and complete **confidence**.

**This Hope-filled Love of God - Is Our Boldness**

**Philippians 1:6**

(be) **being confident** of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you **will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ;

Can You Remember a Time When You We're More **Bold** Than What You Are Today?

**And It Hopes Things Like...**

**Psalms 138:8**

The LORD will perfect *that which* concerns me;

God's Love stays at the job. He does not abandon the project. It is believed that His Love that Hopes all things is the explanation as to how so many people have death-bed conversions. Jesus is there calling out to the end!

## So How Are We As Christians To Live This Out Today?

### 1 John 2:28 NIV

And now, dear children, **continue** in him, so that when He appears we may be **confident** and unashamed before Him at His coming.

## An Example of This Hope

### Luke 7:37-39

And behold, a woman in (of) the city **who was a sinner**, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, **:38** and stood at His feet behind *Him* weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped *them* with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed *them* with the fragrant oil. **:39** Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this*, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, **for she is a sinner.**"



**sinner** grk hamartōlos - **who was/is a sinner** one who is devoted to sin and sinful acts. To live for and to be burning after sin. A person fully given over to lusts. A notoriously lustful person.

### Matthew 9:10

Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, *that* behold, **many** tax collectors and (*many*) **sinner**s **came and sat down with Him** and His disciples.

## “FINDING HIM WHO IS ALTOGETHER FAITHFUL”

**4d.) By His faithfulness He ESTABLISHES me forever**

### 1 Corinthians 13:7

(Love) **endures** all things.



**endures** grk - *hypomenō* - to remain or to be present. To tarry close behind, to remain within reach, to abide/stay near us.

## This Changes Everything for Us.

### This Enduring Love of God - Is Our Promise

#### Isaiah 43:2

When you pass through the waters, **I will be with you**; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. :3 For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

He “endured” Israel in the Wilderness. He will “endure” you.

#### And He Endures Things Like...

My questioning / my worries / my weakness / my unbelief

### So How Are We As Christians To Live This Out Today?

#### Matthew 10:22

And you will be hated by all for **My name’s sake**. But he who **endures** to the end will be saved.

### I CANNOT HELP BUT THINK

Of our Christian brothers and sisters this morning in Egypt who are being beaten, burned to death, killed for being Christians as Islam and sharia law has taken control of the government. – and our U.S. State Department says nothing.  
*(It’s a good thing for Hillary Clinton, that she doesn’t need to get involved because they are only killing Christians)*

#### John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

### I Thank God That Jesus is With Them Right Now.

And He will be with us when the time comes.



**1 Peter 2:21-23**

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: **:22** “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; **:23** who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

## He will love you through the storms of life

(storms come in different types. There are the hurricanes. There's the **heat waves**. There are the **droughts**. There are **ice-storms**)

**Matthew 28:20b**

behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

This is Perhaps the Most Well Known Attribute of God's Perfect Love and it's what's behind the concept of “Everlasting Love” It is in fact the Love of God that cannot be conquered. In the face of setbacks and defeat - it will not quit. It refuses to give in or give up. This Love knows no limitations even when challenged by death itself.

**Jeremiah 31:3**

The LORD has appeared of old to me, *saying*: “Yes, I have loved you with an **everlasting** love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.



**everlasting** {owlam, o-lawm'; or oOLDM {olam, o-lawm';

To the vanishing point. The continuance, that which is beyond or on the other side of that which is temporal. The eternal.

## “FINDING THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE”

*DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE*

**1.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Humble v.4**

**2.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Consistent v.5**

**3.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Pure v.6**

**4.) Is finding Him who is altogether - Faithful v.7**

# “FINDING HIM IS TO FIND THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE” LET’S ALL STAND TOGETHER AS I READ AGAIN...

## 1 Corinthians 13:1-2

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not **Jesus**, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. :2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not **Jesus**, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not **Jesus**, it profits me nothing.

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

:4 **Jesus** suffers long *and* is kind; **Jesus** love does not envy; **Jesus** does not parade Himself, **Jesus** is not puffed up; :5 **Jesus** does not behave rudely, **Jesus** does not seek its own, **Jesus** is not provoked, **Jesus** thinks no evil; :6 **Jesus** does not rejoice in iniquity, but **Jesus** rejoices in the truth; :7 **Jesus** bears all things, **Jesus** believes all things, **Jesus** hopes all things, **Jesus** endures all things.

## Will You Agree with God That

Rom. 3:23 you have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,

Rom. 6:23a That you understand that the wages of sin *is* death,

Rom. 6:23b but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 5:8 Believing today that God demonstrates His own love toward you, in that while you were still a sinner, Christ died for you.

Rom. 10:13 But He now says to you that “*if you would call on the name of the LORD* you shall be saved.”

Rom. 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. :10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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*End of Study*

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