

AN ENCOUNTER WITH LOVE Part 3



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WHAT IS LOVE?

- 1.) Longsuffering (patient)
- 2.) Kind
- 3.) Does not envy (is generous)
- 4.) Does not parade itself, is not puffed up (is humble)
- 5.) Does not behave rudely (is courteous)



WHAT IS LOVE?

- 6.) Does not seek its own (is unselfish)
- 7.) Is not provoked (is good tempered)
- 8.) Thinks no evil (is innocent)
- 9.) Does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth (is sincere)



CAIN'S HEART EXPOSED

⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶ So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?" ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted?

Genesis 4:4-8 (NKJV)



CAIN'S HEART EXPOSED

And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." ⁸ Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

Genesis 4:4-8 (NKJV)



6. LOVE DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN

⁵ Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking;

1 Corinthians 13:5b (AMP)



6. LOVE DOES NOT SEEK ITS OWN

³⁰ I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

John 5:30 (NKJV)

⁵⁰ And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges.

John 8:50 (NKJV)

**7. LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED**

⁵ Love is not touchy or fretful or resentful;

1 Corinthians 13:5c (AMP)

**7. LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED**

¹¹ Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.

Proverbs 19:11 (NLT)

**8. LOVE THINKS NO EVIL**

⁵ Love takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong].

1 Corinthians 13:5d (AMP)

**8. LOVE THINKS NO EVIL**

¹⁹ For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.

²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Romans 16:19-20 (ESV)



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Discussion Questions

Use the following questions this week to grow in your understanding and application of this message.

Read Genesis 4:4-8 as well as 1 Corinthians 13:5 (also refer to the Amplified Translation).

1. Love does not seek its own (love is unselfish). Think of a time when you reached out to, blessed or gave to someone else. Describe how it made you feel? How can you be less selfish in your life right now?
2. Love is not provoked (love is good tempered). What provokes you currently to a place of anger? How can you allow God's perfect love to change you so that you are less provoked?
3. Love thinks no evil (love is innocent and forgiving). How easily do you forgive others? How does the Lord want you be more child-like in your faith so that you can be less suspicious or sceptical and also quick to forgive?
4. Pray with someone this week and confess your need before the Lord to grow in the three aspects of love in this message. Keep one another accountable in the next few weeks.