

The previous chapter addressed the various gifts of the Holy Spirit with the emphasis that all are for the building up of the body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:7<sup>i</sup>.) Every gift is needed, and none should be looked down on as unimportant (1 Corinthians 12:25<sup>ii</sup>). The context shows that the church may have overemphasized the gifts and considered some individuals more highly because of their gift. Paul ends that instruction with a look forward to this chapter, calling it the more excellent way (1 Corinthians 12:26<sup>iii</sup>).

John MacArthur writes, *“This chapter is a breath of fresh air, an oasis in a desert of problems. It is a positive note in the midst of almost continual reproof and correction of wrong understandings, wrong attitudes, wrong behavior, and wrong use of God’s ordinances and gifts. Paul’s scribe must have breathed a sigh of relief and amazement when the apostle began dictating these beautiful, Holy Spirit-inspired words.”*<sup>iv</sup>

***<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.*** 1 Corinthians 13:1 The Corinthian church vied over who was following the best leader and who had the greatest gifts, while the wealthy class were indifferent to the poor. Their greatest problem was that they were short on the greatest gift of all. LOVE would have ended competition and brought cooperation. It would have ended class distinction and apathy towards the poor. If they had God’s love, everyone would be serving one another and putting others first.

While we have one word for love in English, Greek has four. The love mentioned in this chapter is the Greek word **agape**, the word used to describe the love of God for the world (John 3:16<sup>v</sup>) and the love Jesus commands us to have for one another (John 15:12<sup>vi</sup>). It is unconditional and generous. It doesn't seek anything in return. It loves even when the subject of the love is unworthy (Romans 5:6<sup>vii</sup>, 8<sup>viii</sup>). It can even love undeserving enemies (Romans 5:10<sup>ix</sup>). This kind of love cannot be worked up. It must come from God (Romans 5:5<sup>x</sup>). We are commanded to have this kind of love toward God and our fellow man (Mark 12:29-31<sup>xi</sup>). The last verse in this chapter declares it to be one of the greatest gifts from God to mankind (1 Corinthians 13:13<sup>xii</sup>). Next week we will see the rest of this chapter will help us define *agape* further.

**Eros** is the passionate love between husband and wife. It is used for love of country as well as love for money or fame. It can be used in a positive or negative way. It is never used in the New Testament.

**Storge** is affectionate love. An example is love between a parent and their child or between citizens of the same nationality. It is another word not used in the New Testament.

**Phileo** is enduring love such as the committed love between a husband and wife, love of family members, or the love experienced in deep friendship. It is a love that cherishes the heart of the one who is loved.

Paul starts the contrast of the gifts and the fruit of the Spirit with their overemphasized gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 14:27<sup>xiii</sup>). He declares if one could speak all the languages of men and of angels, without love it is just noise, irritating noise at that. But look closely at what Paul is telling them. It is not the words that are just noise. It's the person speaking who is an irritating bong, clang, crash! He uses the first person, I, but it applies to anyone. We come together to hear from God through one another and the noisy

untranslated language just keeps our ears occupied with sounds that mean nothing to us. That keeps us from hearing what needs to be communicated.

Remember when you were a child and your mother or father was trying to tell you something you didn't want to hear so you stuck your fingers in your ears and started saying loudly, "na na na na na na!" If you walk into a church today and everyone is speaking in tongues or babbling and no one interprets, you can know they are ignoring this passage and the next chapter (1 Corinthians 14:23<sup>xiv</sup>). Love is the more excellent way than the gift of tongues. That does not mean that the gift of tongues is worthless. It does mean that without love that considers others it is.

D. A. Carson writes that Paul is saying, "*You who insist that speaking in tongues attests a second work of the Spirit (a baptism of the Spirit), I tell you if love does not characterize your life there is not even an evidence of the first work of the Spirit.*"<sup>xiii</sup>

*<sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.* 1 Corinthians 13:2 He moves from the gift of tongues to the more highly esteemed gifts of prophecy, wisdom, knowledge, and faith that moves mountains. The Corinthians were impressed by skilled rhetoric. That may be what Paul is referring to by prophecy. Paul is telling them that beautiful rhetoric that is not filled with love is just a bunch of noise! It is love that makes speech worthwhile. Love builds up, encourages, comforts, and gives sound instruction (1 Corinthians 14:3<sup>xv</sup>).

In the first chapter of this letter, Paul told them they were enriched in Jesus in all speech (1:5<sup>xvi</sup>). The words they chose were influenced by their relationship with Jesus. But if those words were not from a heart of love, even those words were just meaningless noise. In fact, he says those who exercise those gifts without love are themselves nothing! What a reality check that was to those who thought their speaking abilities made them more important than others.

How do we speak to one another? How do we exercise our gifts? Are they from a heart of love? Are we speaking to impress or out of a heart of love for the family of God? Paul emphatically declares that without love, these gifts don't mean we are anything.

Some preachers can move their audience with the truth in Scripture, and yet they are living a lie. We have seen that too many times. God works through His Word. Because the messenger is flawed does not negate the power of the Word (Hebrews 4:12<sup>xvii</sup>). And yet, that preacher will have to stand before God and give an account for his lack of love (Romans 14:10<sup>xviii</sup>). Their hypocrisy gives an excuse for the skeptic to reject the Word of God that they proclaim.

Our heads may be full of important and useful information, but a lack of love makes it all useless. You've probably been with extremely intelligent people who were knowledgeable on many subjects. They are interesting to talk with, but if you go away with the impression that the person had a head full of cold facts and figures, you don't really think much of them. It is easy to see that their focus is how special they think they are and how ignorant they consider everyone else to be. Knowledge is only a good sign when the person applies it in love. Even if a person had *all* knowledge, they would be nothing! Imagine someone possessing all the knowledge in the known world. We would be super impressed, but in God's eyes if they don't have love, they are nothing.

The tech world wants to create a super-computer that has all the knowledge of mankind so that anyone can access any information we seek and instantly get the answer.

We respect knowledge, but realize that we are editing our knowledge every minute. What we think we know today is overruled by tomorrow's discovery. Not only is the computer limited by the programmer, but it will not have love, and therefore it is nothing!

We often talk about the importance and power of faith. But even if our faith can move mountains (an expression in that day symbolic of insurmountable issues being resolved), if that faith is not exercised in love, then we are nothing! This is interesting because it tells us faith works despite the person exercising it. That is why we see seemingly miraculous things from unbelievers. So, it is not faith alone that matters, but faith exercised in love. Love is the first fruit of the Spirit. Spiritual gifts without love have a temporal effect at best. Love is what makes the effect of the gift life changing. Unselfish love comes from the person who relies on God who is love (Matthew 7:20<sup>xix</sup>). Jesus didn't say you will know them by their gifts, but rather by their fruits, especially the fruit of love (John 13:35<sup>xx</sup>).

<sup>3</sup> *If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.* 1 Corinthians 13:3 Paul has addressed tongues, speech, knowledge, and faith. Now he addresses the gift of generosity. He says that the greatest generosity or sacrifice gains nothing unless it is done in love. Love is that telltale sign of the Spirit at work in the godly individual as their gift is expressed.

Self-sacrifice is the denial of self for others, but Paul is telling us that even that can be done without love. One day when I was sharing about the fact that it is only Christ in us that brings about good works with eternal significance. Someone asked about atheists and agnostics who do good things. The Apostle answers that in this verse. God is love (1 John 4:8<sup>xxi</sup>). If they are without God, they are without love and their motivation is probably to exalt themselves. We can imitate any gift. We can pretend to be selfless, but God sees the heart and judges by what is in our hearts (1 Samuel 16:7<sup>xxii</sup>). Giving can be an act of duty, or feeling one is forced to give and is therefore reluctant. It can be done with an air of superiority, or as in the account of the widow's mite, some were giving out of their abundance hoping for a blessing in return (Mark 12:44<sup>xxiii</sup>).

We can give to make a name for ourselves, but if that is the motivation it really doesn't gain anything. This church had names of donors on all kinds of things, a flagpole, an organ, pews, the patio etc. The donors wanted recognition. No one now knows them and few care who they were. Some of the signs are gone with renovations or removal of the broken item. That is the way of man's glory. My father's name is on the performing arts building at CBU in Riverside, CA. Someday they will probably change it or tear the building down and name it something else. But when we sacrifice from a heart of love, love that expects nothing in return, that does not care if anyone ever knows what we did, we lay up eternal treasure in heaven. Jesus said it like this, <sup>3</sup> *But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,* <sup>4</sup> *so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.* Matthew 6:3-4 Treasure in heaven is great gain.

Paul seems to be indicating here that no matter how great the sacrifice, what could be a greater sacrifice than delivering up your body to be burned? But if it is not done out of agape love, love that expects nothing back, not respect or honor or praise, then the giver gains nothing! This may refer to martyrdom of the most horrific kind. A person can be burned at the stake and not die for the love of God and others. God sees the heart. And what counts to God is selfless love which only comes from the Spirit.

These three verses have instructed us that the gifts of the Spirit exercised without *agape* love are meaningless. Paul's conclusion is that we see that without love the gifts mean nothing of any lasting value. They may produce some effect on the recipients, but it will be temporal and ultimately meaningless if love is not present. Again from Carson, *"In none of these instances does Paul depreciate spiritual gifts, but he refuses to recognize any positive assessment of any of them unless the gift is discharged in love. Principally, therefore, any particular gift is dispensable so far as spiritual profit or attestation of the Spirit's presence is concerned, but love is indispensable."*<sup>xxiv</sup>

As I was reviewing the sermon this morning, I thought of those who witnessed Jesus' miracles such as the feeding of the 5000. They followed Jesus to the next location and Jesus said they weren't following Him because they saw the signs, but because they ate and were filled (John 6:25,26<sup>xxv</sup>). They wanted to see miracles and get something from them, but they missed the love that prompted the miracles. The signs were declaring Jesus is Messiah, *agape* love had come to redeem them. Is not that the same as those today who come to church for what it can do for them and completely miss the power of *agape* love that transforms our hearts?

I remember a time when a person on-line asked why I didn't write more about the gifts of the Spirit. I wrote back that by preaching through the Scripture I get a Biblical balance on different topics. When I get to that passage in which gifts are mentioned, I will certainly expound on that passage. As it happened, I was teaching through this letter and sending out notes on it. When I got to this chapter, he unsubscribed. He did not want to hear that the fruits of the Spirit are more important than the gifts. **The gifts without the fruit are meaningless.** But the opposite is not the case. The fruit without the supernatural gifts is still powerful and converts souls. Those with the fruit have the right heart and will have the gifts in time. Those who seem to have the gifts without the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, are operating in the flesh (Galatians 5:22,23<sup>xxvi</sup>).

Some people live for the little spiritual buzz when they believe they feel God's presence. That is a nice confirmation at times but to live for that is immature and can even be idolatrous. We stand on the Word in faith. We know we are loved!

Because we are commanded to have this kind of love and are nothing without it, we should be asking ourselves if we have it. We should examine our hearts and see what motivates our actions and speech. And if we find it is not *agape* love, and most of us will find that is not always the case, then we should be asking ourselves how we can possess this kind of love and let it become our motivation in everything we do and speak. Since it must come from God who is *agape* love, we must first have a right relationship with Him. That means to be forgiven and cleansed which only comes through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. He offers to take our sins and the punishment we deserve. In exchange He offers us forgiveness and reconciliation with God. We are credited with the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21<sup>xxvii</sup>). It doesn't mean we are perfect now, but that we will be made perfect. It means God sees that final product and can therefore give us His Spirit which exudes *agape* love.

Let me word that a little more succinctly. We recognize that we have a great need. We are sinners and do not have God's love. We see that Jesus made it possible for us to be forgiven because He took our punishment upon Himself. Then we humbly ask for

forgiveness. God forgives us and imparts His own Spirit to us. The Spirit expresses everything in love for God and our fellow man.

You might be like me and say, “I have done that, but at times I still act selfishly and catch myself doing things I don’t want to do.” We sound like Paul in Romans 7:15<sup>xxviii</sup>. But in Romans 8 Paul tells us that *we can* live according to the Spirit (Romans 8:4<sup>xxix</sup>). He writes that the Spirit lives in us and gives us life (Romans 8:11<sup>xxx</sup>). He tells us that by the Spirit *we can* put to death the deeds of the flesh (Romans 8:13<sup>xxxi</sup>). One day the battle will be over and the work in us complete (Romans 8:23<sup>xxxii</sup>). *Agape* love will be our continual expression, our nature through and through!

In the meantime, how do we increase in Christlikeness and express *agape* love more and more? How can we cooperate with God in this process of sanctification (2 Corinthians 3:18<sup>xxxiii</sup>)? I will tell you what is most effective for me, and that is quiet time in prayer, contemplating the grace and love of our Savior. But we need to first saturate our minds with the Word of God. It is the Word that reveals the love of God. In Romans 8 Paul also tells us that to set our minds on the flesh is death, but to set our minds on the Spirit is life and peace (Romans 8:6<sup>xxxiv</sup>). And again, in Colossians 3:1,2 he tells us *<sup>1</sup> If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. We renew our minds with the Word of God. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.* Romans 12:2

In Ephesians Paul tell us to pray in the Spirit on all occasions for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 6:18<sup>xxxv</sup>). If we are always talking with God in prayer, we are much less likely to say or do something selfish. The Spirit enables us to discipline our lives, but we are still free to choose to do our own thing or to walk in the Spirit. We have to be honest with ourselves and ask if we want to express this *agape* love we are given, and if we really do, then we must exercise that Spirit of self-discipline of spending time in the Word, to take a verse or a song with us through the day, to continue to pray as we go, having that friend that is closer than a brother as our constant unseen companion (Proverbs 18:24<sup>xxxvi</sup>).

Love begets love (1 John 4:19<sup>xxxvii</sup>). When we listen to His love for us or read of it in the Word, it should result in us loving Him more. And when we love Him more, we love those He loves. That *agape* love overflows to others. We are willing to give our time and resources as He leads us. And when we see the fruit from that love, we just want to love even more.

*We do not have to be humanly taught to love, because we ourselves “are taught by God to love one another” (1 Thessalonians 4:9<sup>xxxviii</sup>). We are therefore told to “pursue love” (1 Corinthians 14:1<sup>xxxix</sup>), to “put on love” (Colossians 3:14<sup>xl</sup>), to “increase and abound in love” (1 Thessalonians 3:12<sup>xli</sup>; Philippians 1:9<sup>xlii</sup>), to be sincere in love (2 Corinthians 8:8<sup>xliii</sup>), to be unified in love (Philippians 2:2<sup>xliv</sup>), to be “fervent” in love (1 Peter 4:8<sup>xlv</sup>), and to “stimulate one another to love” (Hebrews 10:24<sup>xlvi</sup>).<sup>xlvii</sup>*

It is not natural to mankind. It is only when the God who is love fills our hearts and minds with Himself. So I ask you again, **“Do you want to allow yourself to be an instrument of God’s *agape* love?”** Are you willing to deny the flesh and walk in the Spirit? It isn’t the easy road, but it is the good road. It is the high road that is narrow, and it leads to life everlasting (Matthew 7:13,14<sup>xlviii</sup>).

## Questions:

- 1 What is the more excellent way?
- 2 What are the various Greek words for love?
- 3 What are we if we speak in tongues without love?
- 4 What are we if we prophesy, have all knowledge, and faith without love?
- 5 What do we gain if we give up all things without love?
- 6 What is Paul contrasting in these verses?
- 7 Why does love make a gift of lasting value?
- 8 What are ways in which we look good but have wrong motives?
- 9 How do we go about obtaining agape love?
- 10 What is the cost of expressing agape love?
- 11 Why is it worth our everything?

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<sup>i</sup> **1 Corinthians 12:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

<sup>ii</sup> **1 Corinthians 12:25 (ESV)**

<sup>25</sup> that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

<sup>iii</sup> **1 Corinthians 12:26**

<sup>26</sup> But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>iv</sup> John F. MacArthur Jr., [1 Corinthians](#), MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Press, 1984), 328.

<sup>v</sup> **John 3:16 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>vi</sup> **John 15:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

<sup>vii</sup> **Romans 5:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>viii</sup> **Romans 5:8 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>ix</sup> **Romans 5:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

<sup>x</sup> **Romans 5:5 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

<sup>xi</sup> **Mark 12:29-31 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.' <sup>30</sup> And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

<sup>31</sup> The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

<sup>xii</sup> **1 Corinthians 13:13 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

<sup>xiii</sup> **1 Corinthians 14:27 (ESV)**

<sup>27</sup> If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret.

<sup>xiv</sup> **1 Corinthians 14:23 (ESV)**

<sup>23</sup> If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds?

<sup>xv</sup> **1 Corinthians 14:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.

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<sup>xvi</sup> **1 Corinthians 1:5 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—

<sup>xvii</sup> **Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

<sup>xviii</sup> **Romans 14:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;

<sup>xix</sup> **Matthew 7:20 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

<sup>xx</sup> **John 13:35 (ESV)**

<sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

<sup>xxi</sup> **1 John 4:8 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

<sup>xxii</sup> **1 Samuel 16:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

<sup>xxiii</sup> **Mark 12:44 (ESV)**

<sup>44</sup> For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

<sup>xxiv</sup> D. A. Carson, [“The Most Excellent Way,”](#) in *D. A. Carson Sermon Library* (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2016), 1 Co 13.

<sup>xxv</sup> **John 6:25-26 (ESV)**

<sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?”

<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

<sup>xxvi</sup> **Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

<sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

<sup>xxvii</sup> **2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>xxviii</sup> **Romans 7:15 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

<sup>xxix</sup> **Romans 8:4 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>xxx</sup> **Romans 8:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

<sup>xxxi</sup> **Romans 8:13 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

<sup>xxxii</sup> **Romans 8:23 (ESV)**

<sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> **2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

<sup>xxxiv</sup> **Romans 8:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

<sup>xxxv</sup> **Ephesians 6:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

<sup>xxxvi</sup> **Proverbs 18:24 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

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xxxvii **1 John 4:19 (ESV)**

19 We love because he first loved us.

xxxviii **1 Thessalonians 4:9 (ESV)**

9 Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another,

xxxix **1 Corinthians 14:1 (ESV)**

1 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

xi **Colossians 3:14 (ESV)**

14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

xli **1 Thessalonians 3:12 (ESV)**

12 and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,

xlvi **Philippians 1:9 (ESV)**

9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment,

xlvi **2 Corinthians 8:8 (ESV)**

8 I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine.

xlvi **Philippians 2:2 (ESV)**

2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

xlvi **1 Peter 4:8 (ESV)**

8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

xlvi **Hebrews 10:24 (ESV)**

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

xlvi John F. MacArthur Jr., [1 Corinthians](#), MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Press, 1984), 330.

xlvi **Matthew 7:13-14 (ESV)**

13 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.