

What Love does not do: 1 Cor 13

The Bible clearly teaches that the most important virtue we share in our fellowship as Christians is our love for one another.

As children, you might remember picking up a flower and plucking the petals and as we repeat the phrase, she loves me, she loves me not.” We did this hoping that the last petal would tell us “Does this person love me?” Some of the petals were “love me petals “, while the other petals were “love me nots”. Last week we looked at the “Love me” petals. We looked at what love does. This week, we’re going to look at the “Love me nots”.

There are 8 love me nots listed in 1 Cor 13, that are somewhat negative.

I. Love is not Jealous: Verse 4:

Cain was envious of his brother Abel and murdered him. Joseph’s brothers were so envious of him that they sold him into slavery. King Saul burned with envy over David's popularity and sought to kill him. The chief Priests and Pharisees were so envious of Jesus' that they plotted how they might get of Him.

Being envious means, I can’t stand someone else being successful, or happy when I’m not.

II. Love is not boastful: Verse 4.

The more love you have the humbler you will be.

Jesus said, "If anyone wants to be first, they must be the very last, and a servant of all." Mark 9:35. Love is not proud, boastful or selfish.

III. Does not Behave Rudely: Verse 5.

It does not run over the feelings of other people.

4. Love does not seek its own: Verse 5. Love does not demand it’s own way.

Do you remember in Acts 9 there is the story about a women named Dorcus.

She was needling her way to heaven, preparing clothes and giving those clothes to the poor. When she died the people came outside her door, mourning her departure. She was missed because she lived for others.

5. Love is not easily agitated vs5.

6. Love does not keep an account of wrongs done, verse 5.

This word describes the kind of person who is a bookkeeper of wrongs.

This is the heart of what Paul is writing about to the Church at Corinth. They're fighting and bickering. They were even taking each other to court.

If a brother or sister in Christ ever offended them, they had this list, a tally sheet that contained a mental record of all the wrongs done to them. Love does not keep a record of wrongs suffered.

7. Love does not rejoice in iniquity vs. 6.

A loving person is never happy when a brother or sister in Christ goes astray.

8. Love Never fails: Verse 8

If you bring love into your life you will have something to carry with you, not only in this life but also in the life to come.

Love never fails and in order to drive this point home Paul uses three different illustrations. He says, "let me tell you about some things will fail. "

Look at verse 8. Miraculous gifts will fail. When we come to Verse 11, this is the 2nd ill, the immaturities of childhood. Love never fails, but the immaturities of childhood will fail.

The third ill is found in verse 12, which is incomplete knowledge of ourselves.

I take it that Paul is talking about when we get to heaven. One day when we get to heaven we will know about ourselves more fully than we know of ourselves now.

Paul says, love never fails, but here are some things that will fail, miraculous miracles, immaturities of childhood, and acquiring a complete knowledge about ourselves.

But if you bring love into your life, you'll have something to keep all through eternity. This point is driven home in verse 13.

"Now abide in faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love."

Close: Finally, we have reached the end.

In two lessons we have covered what love does and what love does not do. This week/Love me notes. Go home this week and take a look at this chapter. Then ask yourself this question. Would the text still read true, if I replaced my name for the word love?