

# What the World Needs Now Is...

## Persevering

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 13**

**“Love \_\_\_\_\_ perseveres!”**

### \_\_\_\_\_ Love as Your #1 Ministry (1 Cor. 13:1-3)

*<sup>1</sup> Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> 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 love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.*

Without love: Your speaking gifts become loud, meaningless, and irritating **noise**.

With love: Your words are \_\_\_\_\_ and they strengthen others.

Without love: Your teaching and great faith amount to \_\_\_\_\_.

With love: Your instruction and visionary ability is recognized.

Without love: Your generosity and self-sacrifice have \_\_\_\_\_ value.

With love: Your generosity and self-sacrifice are very \_\_\_\_\_.

### Practice Love's Character (1 Cor. 13:4-6)

*<sup>4</sup> Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; <sup>5</sup> does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; <sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth*

Persevering love is \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thessalonians 5:14, NIV)

Persevering love is quick to \_\_\_\_\_, refusing to anger and unwilling to fight back.

*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

(1 Peter 4:8 NIV)

Persevering love demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_. (Ephesians 4:32, NIV)

Kindness means: Willing to \_\_\_\_\_ - Gracious - Useful - Sympathetic

**Avoid** \_\_\_\_\_ - Love does not envy. (Proverbs 27:4)

**Don't** \_\_\_\_\_ - Love does not brag. "...does not parade itself"

**Refuse to be** \_\_\_\_\_ - Love is not proud. "...is not puffed up"

**Eliminate** \_\_\_\_\_ - Love "does not behave rudely"

**Don't push your** \_\_\_\_\_ - Love does not "demand its own way"

**Don't get** \_\_\_\_\_ - "is not provoked" (Proverbs 14:17)

**Refuse to track the** \_\_\_\_\_ - "...thinks no evil"

**Never celebrate what is** \_\_\_\_\_ - "...does not delight in evil"

**Persevering love celebrates when the truth** \_\_\_\_\_ - "...but rejoices in the truth."

### \_\_\_\_\_ Indefinitely (1 Cor. 13:7-8, 13)

*<sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails...<sup>13</sup> And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

"Persevering love requires diligent \_\_\_\_\_"

### How does love persevere? Love...

**Always** \_\_\_\_\_ "...bears all things" (NKJ) "...it always protects" (NIV)

"Make your relationship a \_\_\_\_\_ place"

**Always** \_\_\_\_\_ "...believes all things" (NKJ) "...always trusts" (NIV)

"Persevering love requires deep \_\_\_\_\_...it requires abiding faith"

**Always** \_\_\_\_\_ "...hopes all things" (NKJ) "...is always hopeful" (NLT)

**Always** \_\_\_\_\_ "...endures all things" (KJV)

"Persevering love requires endurance"

"God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for every trial"

"Tackle troubles \_\_\_\_\_...wherever it takes you"

\_\_\_\_\_ "Love will last forever" (NLT)

"Persevering love requires \_\_\_\_\_ commitment"

Love is the greatest gift...it is the greatest demonstration of ministry that we can provide to one other. For this reason love must persevere!

# What the World Needs Now Is...

## Persevering

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 13**

**“Love always perseveres!”**

### **Prioritize Love as Your #1 Ministry (1 Cor. 13:1-3)**

*<sup>1</sup> Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> 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 love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.*

Without love: Your speaking gifts become loud, meaningless, and irritating **noise**.

With love: Your words are **gracious** and they strengthen others.

Without love: Your teaching and great faith amount to **nothing**.

With love: Your instruction and visionary ability is recognized.

Without love: Your generosity and self-sacrifice have **zero** value.

With love: Your generosity and self-sacrifice are very **profitable**.

### **Practice Love’s Character (1 Cor. 13:4-6)**

*<sup>4</sup> Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; <sup>5</sup> does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; <sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth*

Persevering love is **patient**. (1 Thessalonians 5:14, NIV)

Persevering love is quick to **forgive**, refusing to anger and unwilling to fight back.

*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

*(1 Peter 4:8 NIV)*

Persevering love demonstrates **kindness**. (Ephesians 4:32, NIV)

Kindness means: Willing to **Help** - Gracious - Useful - Sympathetic

**Avoid Envy** - Love does not envy. (Proverbs 27:4)

**Don’t Brag** - Love does not brag. “...does not parade itself”

**Refuse to be Proud** - Love is not proud. “...is not puffed up”

**Eliminate Rudeness** - Love “does not behave rudely”

**Don’t push your agenda** - Love does not “demand its own way”

**Don’t get Irritated** - “is not provoked” (Proverbs 14:17)

**Refuse to track the wrongs** - “...thinks no evil”

**Never celebrate what is wrong** - “...does not delight in evil”

**Persevering love celebrates when the truth wins** - “...but rejoices in the truth.”

### **Persist Indefinitely (1 Cor. 13:7-8, 13)**

*<sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails...<sup>13</sup> And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

“Persevering love requires diligent **preparation**”

### **How does love persevere? Love...**

**Always Protects** “...bears all things” (NKJ) “...it always protects” (NIV)

“Make your relationship a **safe** place”

**Always Believes** “...believes all things” (NKJ) “...always trusts” (NIV)

“Persevering love requires deep **trust**...it requires abiding faith”

**Always Hopes** “...hopes all things” (NKJ) “...is always hopeful” (NLT)

**Always Endures** “...endures all things” (KJV)

“Persevering love requires endurance”

“God has a **purpose** for every trial”

“Tackle troubles **together**...wherever it takes you”

**Never Fails** “Love will last forever” (NLT)

“Persevering love requires **total** commitment”

Love is the greatest gift...it is the greatest demonstration of ministry that we can provide to one other. For this reason love must persevere!