

A painting of a church with a bell tower and a cross on top. The church is set against a background of warm, orange and red hues. The entire scene is overlaid with thick, dripping paint in various colors: orange, red, blue, and dark brown. The paint drips are vertical, creating a sense of messiness and chaos.

1 Corinthians

MESSY CHURCH
MIGHTY CHRIST

The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.

Put first things first.

1 Corinthians 12:31

And I will show you an even better way.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing...

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, ⁵ is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end...

⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put aside childish things. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known. ¹³ Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:8-12

...as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put aside childish things. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known.

2 Corin 5:14-15

...the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion, that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the one who died for them and was raised.

Love is patient

Psalm 103:8

**The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in faithful love.**

2 Peter 3:9

**The Lord does not delay his promise, as some
understand delay, but is patient with you, not
wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.**

Love is kind

Titus 3:3-5

For we too were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved by various passions and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, detesting one another.

⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love for mankind appeared, ⁵ he saved us—not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy—through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

Love does not envy

John 3:29-30

“He who has the bride is the groom. But the groom’s friend, who stands by and listens for him, rejoices greatly at the groom’s voice. So this joy of mine is complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease.”

John 14:12

“Truly I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.”

Love is not boastful

John 17:4

I have glorified you on the earth by completing the work you gave me to do.

Love is not arrogant

Matthew 20:28

...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Love is not rude

Romans 12:10

**Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters.
Take the lead in honoring one another.**

Love is not self-seeking

1 Corinthians 10:24

No one is to seek his own good, but the good of the other person.

Love is not irritable

Romans 12:17-18

Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes.

¹⁸ If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Love does not keep a record of wrongs

Psalm 130:3-4

LORD, if you kept an account of iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, so that you may be revered.

Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth

Mark 11:15-17

...Jesus overturned the tables of the money changers... and would not permit anyone to carry goods through the temple. ¹⁷ He was teaching them: “Is it not written, My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you have made it a den of thieves!”

Love bears all things and endures all things

1 Peter 2:21

For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

Love believes all things and hopes all things

Love never loses faith or exhausts hope (A. Thisleton).

Hebrews 12:2

For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.