

5 2 W E E K S  
O F G R O W T H

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*Give it a Year*  
*Week 14*

# WEEK 14

## 1 Corinthians 13: 1-3

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“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.”

LOVE...it's a small four-letter word but it has big meaning. It can be packed with a lot of emotions behind it from happiness to sadness to anger to bitterness to euphoria. Love tends to be one of the most misunderstood words because society tells us that it's a feeling. We believe the lie that love is something that we fall in and out of; however, love is a choice. It's a choice that you have to make every second of every day.

We started talking about love in last week's devotional and we will continue to address this topic for the next couple weeks. Love is so important to God because God is love and God commands us to love. So, if it's that important to God then it needs to be that important for us to learn to love by His definition.

Re-read the above scripture. 1 Corinthians 13 is known as the love chapter. As we begin to dissect these verses, you will begin to hear how serious God feels about love. It's not just a word, it's an action. The word love without the action of love is empty...it's just noise, like a "resounding gong or clanging cymbal".

These verses continue by saying that you can be a genius and a walking Bible encyclopedia, yet if you don't love, then all that knowledge is worthless. It doesn't even matter what gifts that God has given you, if you aren't a loving person, none of that matters to God.

## READ:

1 John 4:7-12

Mark 12: 28-31

1 Corinthians 13

\*\*\*don't skip over reading these again this week. I encourage you to slow down and meditate over each and every word as you read these scripture verse by verse.

## REFLECT:

- Do you lead your life with love? Think through your entire life...work, home, family, friends, church, etc.
- Do your conversations with others throughout the day begin with a heart posture of love? Again, think through your conversations at work, at home, at the grocery store, etc.
- Do you give with having a joyful heart? Do you give of your time, talent, and treasures (money) with a joyful heart?

\*\*\*if your answers are no, there is no shame. This reflection isn't made to make you feel shameful but to show you where you may need to improve. Remember there is "no condemnation for those that are in Christ Jesus". But growth requires that we get real with ourselves and understand where we may have not been the best versions of who God created us to be and how to allow the Holy Spirit to change us in order to grow.

## PRAYER:

Father God, I thank You for loving me even though I am nowhere near perfect or the person that You have called me to be. I have a lot of work that needs to happen in my heart. Lord, allow Your Holy Spirit to do a work in my heart so that I can be a more loving person in all areas of my life. Transform me from the inside so others can see Your love in me. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.