

1 Corinthians 13:4-7
What is Love Like?

We all need to evaluate the way we live as followers of Christ, and the chief expression of the way we live, as disciples, will be in love.

- I. Love is patient and kind.
 - A. Patience does good to others by restraint from doing harm. It waits and trusts in God.
 - B. Kindness actively pursues someone's good, regardless of their disposition toward you.

...”when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.” (1 Peter 2:18-23 ESV)

Charles Spurgeon- *“Where I have known that there existed a measure of disaffection to myself, I have not recognised it, unless it has been forced upon me, but have, on the contrary, acted towards the opposing person with all the more courtesy and friendliness, and I have never heard anymore of the matter... The best of people are sometimes out at elbows and say unkind things; we should be glad if our friends could quite forget what we said when we were peevish and irritable, and it will be Christlike to act towards others in this matter as we would wish them to do towards us. Never make a brother remember that he once uttered a hard speech in reference to yourself. If you see him in a happier mood, do not mention the former painful occasion: if he be a man of right spirit he will in future be unwilling to vex a [person] who has treated him so generously.”*

- II. It does not envy.
- III. It doesn't boast, and isn't arrogant.

“... “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know.” (1 Corinthians 8:1-2 ESV)

What cures arrogance and then boasting?

“Now I... praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.” (Daniel 4:37 ESV)

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. (John 12:24-26 ESV)