

# The Priority of Love

## 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

### Three central truths we learn about love from 1 Corinthians 13.

1. The priority of love (vs. 1-3)
2. The practice of love (vs. 4-8a)
3. The permanence of love (vs. 8b-13)

### Koine Greek (common language of the Roman world) had three words to differentiate between a strong emotional feeling and a strong volitional commitment.

- Eros – best translated “sexual desire”.
- Phileo – mutual friendship and affection.
- Agape – a commitment to seek what is best for another person no matter how much sacrifice is required.

### The priority of love (vs. 1-3)

- Love is greater than the gift of tongues. (vs. 1)
- Love is greater than the gift of prophecy. (vs. 2a)
- Love is greater than the gift of faith. (vs. 2b)
- Love is greater than the gift of giving. (vs. 3a)
- Love is greater than the gift of mercy. (vs. 3b)

### The true church of God is designed to be a community of agape love! But where does a believer go to find that kind of love? Where does love come from?

1. Love comes from God. God is the Source of love. (1 John 4:7-8)
2. Love is produced in our lives through the Holy Spirit’s control. (Galatians 5:22)
3. Love is the living proof that we are children of God. (John 13:34-35)