

# “WHAT LOVE DOES”

1 Corinthians 13:4

**Main Idea:** Love wants and pursues the highest good of another.

## What love is (the meaning of agape)

It is not an \_\_\_\_\_ word; it is a \_\_\_\_\_ word

It is an act of the \_\_\_\_\_

It is a deliberate \_\_\_\_\_ and an enduring \_\_\_\_\_ to  
pursue the highest \_\_\_\_\_ of another

## What love does

### Two summary statements

#### Love is patient

Patience is not just the refusal to \_\_\_\_\_,  
but the refusal to \_\_\_\_\_ on those who fail,  
disappoint, offend, or hurt us

#### Love is kind

Kindness is active \_\_\_\_\_

Kindness has reference to being \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

### Three negative statements

Love does not envy (“boiling”)

Love does not boast (“windbag”)

Love is not proud (“inflated”)

## Success and failure in love's expression

# Family Life Groups

## “What Love Does”

1 Corinthians 13:4

**Main Idea:** Love wants and pursues the highest good of another.

1. In verse 4a Paul is describing patience with people, not patience in circumstances. The need for patience implies that people can get on your nerves or underneath your skin.

Are there people in your life right now for whom you need patience? Why?

What would patience look like in your relationship with those people? Be specific.

Will you pray right now, and each day this week, that God will give you His love for those people, so that you can express His love toward them? Pray that God will fill you with His Spirit.

Remember, patience is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:25).

2. In verse 4b Paul is describing active benevolence toward people (kindness). This means being thoughtful, attentive, engaged, and helpful, even to those who might naturally rub you the wrong way.

How can you show kindness this week to a person in your life who naturally rubs you the wrong way?

Will you pray right now, and each day this week, that God will give you opportunity to show kindness to that person, so that you can express His love toward him or her? Pray that God will fill you with His Spirit. Remember, kindness is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:25).

3. In verse 4c Paul says that love does not boil with envy.

Are you envious of anyone? If so, why are you envious?

Will you confess that envy, right now, to the Lord, and ask Him to replace it with His love for that person?