

#3 Love Will Last Forever
1 Corinthians 13:8-12

1Corinthians 13:8 (ESV) Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹When 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 gave up childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

1. Love Is ETERNAL, but Spiritual Gifts are _____ 13:8
2. Love Is COMPLETE, but Spiritual Gifts are _____ 13:9-10,12
3. Love Is MATURE, but Spiritual Gifts are _____ 13:11

What is ‘the perfect’?

- The completion of the NT
- The ‘maturity’ of the Church
- The Rapture of the Church
- The Second Coming of Christ
- The millennial kingdom age
- The new heavens and new earth

The “Cessationists”	The “Continuationists”
Miraculous ‘sign gifts’ ceased with the completion of the NT around 90 AD	All gifts, including the miraculous gifts, continue to be distributed by the Spirit to members of Christ’s Body
“The perfect” was the completion of the NT or the ‘maturity of the Church’ in the late 1 st century	“The perfect” hasn’t come yet
Miraculous gifts were given to the 1 st century apostles to confirm/ authenticate their message as being from God (<i>II Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:3-4</i>)	Miraculous gifts have been given throughout the ages for the purpose of glorifying God, building up the Church, and evangelizing the lost

Memory Verse:

1John 3:16 (NIV) *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.*

THE LOVE DARE!

Week 3

- DAY 15: Buy a gift card and give it away.** Purchase a \$25 or \$50 gift card and keep it with you this week, asking the Lord to show you someone to give it to. Surprise them with it. Enjoy the blessing of loving through giving!
- DAY 16: Be vulnerable.** Ask your spouse, child, or a close friend to point out something they see in you that seems unloving to them. Be willing to hear them out. Resist the urge to defend yourself. Take it to heart. Pray it through.
- DAY 17: Believe the best.** Decide in your heart by God’s grace to believe the best about someone in authority over you—your employer, boss, teacher, leader, parent, pastor, or president. Identify any reluctance to do so and explore the source. Can agape love overcome it?
- DAY 18: Brag on someone.** Become a big fan of someone in your life whom you admire. Build them up in others’ eyes. Extra credit: Do this for someone you are jealous of.
- DAY 19: Give In.** Ask God for His grace to purposely lose an argument and let the other person win. Realize that you don’t have to always be right and that your value is not based on winning. Be a gracious loser. Find joy in winning by losing.
- DAY 20: Embrace purposeful neglect.** Give up an activity you would normally do in order to spend quality time with someone you love. Ask them what they would like to do, do it with them, and just enjoy being together. Communicate that you value your relationship more than accomplishing tasks or doing what you want to do.
- DAY 21: R-E-S-P-E-C-T!** Demonstrate love by giving honor and respect to someone whom you don’t think deserves it. Ask the Lord for His grace to see that person as a highly-valued image-bearer of God, regardless of any disagreements you might have with them.

Bible Reading

- Sun.: Matthew 6 Mon. : Matthew 7 Tues: Matthew 8
- Wed.: Matthew 9 Thurs.: Matthew 10
- Fri.: Matthew 11 Sat.: Matthew 12 Sun.: Matthew 13

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