

“Puppy Love Or Grown Up Love”

John 15:12, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 11 NIV

Tony Toth, January 29, 2023

I. PUSHING THROUGH THE FOG OF LOVE

A. The RIGHT PERSON Myth

B. The PROMISE Myth

II. A NEW WAY TO UNDERSTAND LOVE

A. Jesus Invites Us TO FOLLOW

John 15:12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

B. Paul Gives COMMENTARY And APPLICATION

1 Corinthians 13:11 “When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.”

III. PRACTICING FOR THE WIN

1 Corinthians 13:4–8 “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”

A. What We Learned So Far

1. Love Is Not Sex
2. Love Is Patient Not Pushy
3. Love Is Kind Not Weak
4. Love Is Humble Not Arrogant
5. Love Is Honorable Not Rude

B. Love Is Caring Not Self-Seeking

Love puts the INTERESTS & NEEDS of others first

Philippians 2:4 “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

C. Love Absorbs Not Explodes

Love RESPONDS instead of REACTING to others

Proverbs 15:1 “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

D. Love Forgives Not Records

Love pretends to FORGET and lets go

Philippians 2:4 “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

E. Love Always Protects, Trusts, Hopes, Perseveres

Love chooses to see and believe the BEST while overlooking the rest

THE NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

1. **Puppy Love or Grown Up Love?** Discuss with family and friends this week how would you describe the difference between “puppy love” and “grown up love”
2. **Of the four new aspects of love discussed, which is one you need more preparation and practice?** Are you self-seeking? Easily angered? A Scorekeeper? Not protective? This week take time each day to own that about yourself and offer it up to Jesus in surrender. Pray “I want to follow you Jesus, not the ways of this world.”