

# Understand your Bible

## Suggested notes

### 1 Corinthians 13

#### Background to the chapter

This is part of a letter that Paul sent to the group of Christian believers in Corinth.

#### What we will see in this chapter:

- Why it is essential for believers to show Christian love in all aspects of their lives
- How and why we show love

#### 1 Read the chapter

#### 2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 3	1. What do we learn about the importance of love?  <i>Text note: "Gift of prophecy" was a Holy Spirit gift that existed in the first century.</i>	If we have all kinds of abilities and do all kinds of things but don't have love, it doesn't do us any good.
4 to 7	2.1. How should we show love?  2.2. What sort of behaviour should we avoid if we are to show love?	We show love by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ patiently caring more for others than for self</li> <li>➤ taking pleasure in what is true</li> <li>➤ putting up with anything</li> <li>➤ believing and hoping</li> </ul> We should avoid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ wanting what others have</li> <li>➤ being proud and boastful</li> <li>➤ wanting our own way</li> <li>➤ being provoked</li> <li>➤ bearing grudges</li> <li>➤ passing on malicious gossip</li> </ul>
8 to 13	3. In what way is love superior to all other attributes?	Love never stops. Prophecy, tongues and knowledge will all eventually end.

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### 3 Related theme: *Love should be central in our lives.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the Bible. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
Leviticus 19 v 18 and 34	The Israelites were to love their Jewish and non-Jewish neighbours as themselves.
Deuteronomy 6 v 5	The Israelites were to love God.
Proverbs 10 v 12	Love covers all wrongs.
1 Thessalonians 3 v 12	Paul encouraged believers to abound in love.
1 Timothy 1 v 5	Paul told Timothy that the aim of his teaching was to show love.
1 Peter 4 v 8	Peter said that showing love covered sins.
1 John 4 v 7 and 11	We should love one another because love is from God. If God shows his love to us, we should show it to one another.