

*A Better Definition*  
*1 Corinthians 13:1-13*

Jesus taught that the greatest commandment is to \_\_\_\_\_ God and our neighbors. If we don't have a good \_\_\_\_\_ of love, how will we know if we have fulfilled this commandment? God dedicated a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible to the definition of love.

This passage falls within the context of Paul's discussion of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the Corinthian church was experiencing and the way that spiritual gifts were contributing to that disunity. Paul knew that there was and is only one way real, broad-based, and lasting unity can be achieved. The Corinthian church had to drop their \_\_\_\_\_, resentment, and \_\_\_\_\_ toward one another and begin to \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul selected several of the more conspicuous and \_\_\_\_\_ gifts that the Corinthians apparently valued and described them in their most \_\_\_\_\_ application. But he said if you are failing to love others, \_\_\_\_\_, you gain nothing and you are nothing but unpleasant noise.

If I am making Jesus my \_\_\_\_\_ and His word, my \_\_\_\_\_, I should want to be remembered as someone who really \_\_\_\_\_.

Having stressed the priority of love, Paul defines love the only way love can be identified: by its \_\_\_\_\_ toward others. We should go over this list carefully and see how we measure up before we do \_\_\_\_\_ in service for the Lord and the church.

Finally, Paul gently challenged the Corinthian church to realize that when they are embroiled in their petty conflicts and divisions, they are acting like \_\_\_\_\_ rather than like \_\_\_\_\_ Christians.

This text is \_\_\_\_\_ at a wedding, but it \_\_\_\_\_ pretty good in real life. The good news is, even in our imperfections, when it comes to God's love for you, He is always batting \_\_\_\_\_. God is love and He loves you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The more you draw close to Him and receive His love, the more you will \_\_\_\_\_.