

“REAL LOVE; PATIENT & KIND”

WITHOUT LOVE:

- I am a noisy gong or clanging cymbal (1Cor. 13:1).
- I am nothing (1Cor. 13:2).
- I gain nothing (1Cor. 13:3).
- Love must be the primary motivation for everything we do!

REAL LOVE:

- Real love is patient (1Cor. 13:4). Patience – willing to wait expectantly for the best/desired result.
 - God is patient (1Tim. 1:16; 2Pe. 3:9, 15).
 - He sent prophets to Israel for 200 years, warning them to repent, before they were taken into captivity.
 - He sent prophets to Judah for 400 years, warning them to repent, before they were taken into captivity.
 - Be patient in trouble and trials (Ro. 12:12; 1Cor. 4:12).
 - Be patient with each other’s faults (Eph. 4:2).
 - Be patient with difficult people (2Tim. 2:24-25).
 - God is not in a hurry, why are you?
 - Be patient in waiting for God’s answer (Heb. 10:36).
 - Patience demonstrates that you believe **God is in control!**
 - Impatience points out the opposite in your life.
- Real love is kind (1Cor. 13:4). Kindness – Doing good to others when it is not deserved or earned.
 - God is kind (Ro. 2:4; 3:24; Eph. 1:7-8).
 - He does not give us what our sins deserve and He gives us what we don’t deserve.
 - His kindness is given to motivate us towards repentance (a transformed life).
 - Do good to your enemies (Lk. 6:35).

- Really listen to others (Ja. 1:19).
- Forgive others, no matter what (Eph. 4:32).
- Use kind words (Pr. 15:1; 16:24).
- Showing kindness says, “You are of great value to God.”
- Kindness demonstrates you have believed & received **God’s kindness towards you!**
- Being unkind indicates a lack of knowing God’s kindness.

PATIENCE, KINDNESS & REPENTANCE:

- God’s patient and kind love is given with a purpose ... to receive a response of repentance. This says, “God I love You!”
 - God is not patient and kind so we can live self-directed, self-centered lives. He wants us to repent and be changed and live changed lives!
 - His kindness and patience is not an endorsement of our sin.

REFLECTING GOD:

- If God is patient with us and kind towards us, we should do the same.
- Being kind and patient is real love ... God’s love!