

Studies in Christianity Christian Love #21

S#1.

Love Hopes All Things

S#2.

Text : **I Cor. 13: 4-7 ; I Cor. 5: 1-5 ; II Cor. 2: 5-8**

A. What is more important, faith or love ?

S#3.

1. Faith is vitally important.

S#4.

a. It is essential to a relationship with God.

Heb. 11: 6 – And without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for he who comes to God must believe that He is and
that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

b. It is essential to salvation.

Eph. 2: 8-9 – For by grace you have been saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

2. Even so, Love is more important

S#5.

a. **I Cor. 13: 13** – But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.

b. **I Cor. 13: 2b** – And if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

3. Faith is not essential to the nature of God.

S#6.

a. Whether there is faith or not does not affect God.

b. Love is the very nature; in essence God IS love.

I John 4: 8 – The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

B. Love is the cause of salvation.

S#7.

1. Love motivated God to save the world.

John 3: 16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

2. We respond to salvation's call because of love.

I John 4: 19 – We love, because He first loved us.

C. Love is the essence of God's will for mankind.

Matthew 22: 36 – Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 . S#8.

And He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 "This is the great and foremost commandment. 39 "The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

D. Thus, we have been involved in an in-depth, but not comprehensive study of love.

1. We've looked at 13 of the verbs uses by the Apostle to describe the action of Agape.
2. This lesson will center on #14 ... **"Love hopes all things."**

E. We will divide our lesson into four sections :**S#9.**

1. The **Meaning** of Hope
2. The **Magnitude** of the Hope
3. The **Model** of Hope
4. What Hope **Means** to our Life

I. What is the meaning of this word "hope?"**S#10.****A. This word "hope" is not used as hope is commonly used by the world today.**

1. The hopes expressed in common parlance assumes the probability of disappointment.
 - a. *"I hope this lottery ticket I purchased is a winner."*
 - b. *"I forgot to study; I hope I am able to pass the test."*
2. This kind of hope is little more than a wish or a desire.

B. "Hope" as used in the scriptures has a much different meaning.**S#11.**

1. Hope translates the word ... ἐλπίζω ... elpizó (*31x NT, 19 Paul*)
 - a. Strong's (#1679) : To expect, to hope for, trust
 - b. Thayer's : to anticipate, to wait for (*with expectation*)
2. "Confident assurance in the present about future reality"
 - a. Belief is in the present
 - b. Hope is future oriented

*3. "Looking to the future with confident expectation of what God will do."

Titus 2: 13 – ... In the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the **S#12.**
appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

THUS : *Hope is fixed certainty about what God will do in the future.*

C. Kittel's Theological Dictionary of the New Testament (10 volume set)

1. Expectation of God in the future
2. It is a positive future because its point of reference is God.
3. Hope places its trust and confidence in God.
4. Hope waits for God so it is free from anxiety.

D. Regarding “love hopes all” various commentators said things like :

1. Love refuses to take failure as final
2. As long as God operates human failure is not final
3. Love looks for the best possible outcome in any situation
4. Love is patient waiting for a positive outcome
5. Hope trusts that all will turn out well. (*Love never loses hope.*)
6. Love never loses hope, but is always hopeful about the goodness of God and His power to work in someone’s life. (*This is why we pray for people.*)

D. Our take away :**S#13.**

1. Our text is concerned with the hope we have for other people based upon what God can do in them and for them and thru them.
2. Love expects the best and looks ahead with great hope ... with great expectation.
3. As long as there is God, love never writes someone off.
 - a. Love always believes in future restoration.
 - b. Love hopes even when its object has given up.

II. What is the magnitude of the “hope?”**S#14.****A. Love hopes ALL things.**

1. Not a few things, some things, or even most things
2. Not all things some times, or most of the time
3. Love hopes all things all of the time.

B. The understanding of “all things” requires some understanding.**#15.**

1. The word “**Things**” is NOT in the original text; it is added by the translators.
2. The word in the original which is translated as “**all things**” is “**pas.**” (strg #3956)
 - a. It means “all”, any, every or “the whole”
 - b. Translated : all, all things, every, everyone, everything, whatsoever, whosoever, all manner, any, always, etc.
3. Thus, love hopes all ways, all things, for all people.

C. Hope is restricted ONLY by God’s will. (*It does not anticipate sin.*)**#16.**

Rom. 12: 2 –And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

D. What does love hope for ?

#17.

1. Salvation for the lost.
 - a. Love never gives up on an unsaved spouse or child.
 - b. Old Bro. Santos gave up on his neighbors and said, "We preach the gospel of salvation every Sunday. If they want it, let them come to church and get it."
2. Reconciliation for those who are estranged.
 - a. We should never give up on those who have left the church.
 - b. Stay in touch and keep praying.
3. Sanctification for those who are carnal.
 - a. Love hopes the one overtaken by sin will seek the cleansing blood of Jesus.
 - b. **Gal. 6: 1** – Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. #18.
4. Love never says never, i.e., it never writes anyone off.
 - a. Our theology will not allow us to give up hope, (*providence*)
 - b. As long as God rules, He can override circumstances.

Rom. 8: 28 – And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. #19.

III. What is the model we follow as we "hope all things?"

#20.

A. Jesus is the only perfect model of hoping all things.

#21.

1. **I Pet. 2: 21** – For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,
2. This is why Jesus did not go straight from Heaven to the cross.
 - a. He had to be old enough to give himself willingly.
 - b. He lived under the Law perfectly as an adult. (*Demonstrated it could be done*)
3. Jesus became the personification of holiness.
 - a. This holiness of Jesus is imputed to believers.
 - b. Jesus is held up as the model which Christians are to imitate.

I John 3: 2 – And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

B. Jesus never gave up hope for His disciples.

#22.

1. There were time when He was frustrated with them.

Matt. 17: 17 – And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me."

- a. **Matt. 16** ... Peter was call Satan
 - b. **Matt. 26** ... They could not stay awake to pray with Him for one hour.
 - c. **Matt. 26** ... Peter denied Jesus
 - d. **Matt. 18** ... They continually argued who would be the greatest in the kingdom.
2. After all of this Jesus turned over His life's work to these 12.
- a. He entrusted the future of mankind to them.
 - b. We give up on people far too quickly.

IV. What is the means by which we develop this "hope."

#23.

A. How can we hope in one another when we know so much about each other?

B. Our hope in others flows from our hope in God.

#24.

- 1. **Job 13: 15** – Though He slay me, I will hope in Him.
Nevertheless I will argue my ways before Him.
- 2. **Psa. 39: 7** – And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You.
- 3. Cf – Psa. 38: 15 , 62: 5 ; I Tim. 4: 10 ; II Cor. 1:10

C. We hope in God to work in the lives of those we love.

#25.

- 1. God is ruling sovereign over all and providentially intercedes as HE sees fit.
- 2. God never takes time off from His work.
Psa. 121: 4 – Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 3. The God who answers our prayers is continually working good, **giving hope.**
Rom. 8: 28 – And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

CONCLUSION : For whom do you need to maintain hope ?

#26.

- A. The porcupine ... *One who has a lot of good points, but is hard to hug.*
- B. Blinded loved one who refuses to see ?
- C. **Stand in the gap** ... As long as there is God, failure is never final.

INVITATION : Do you have the hope that is only is only in Christ,

#27.

S#28. ... Communion slide

Lesson Text :**I Corinthians 13: 4-7**

4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, **hopes all things**, endures all things.

I Corinthians 5: 1-5

1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife. **2** You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

3 For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present. **4** In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, **5** I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

II Corinthians 2: 5-8

5 But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree — in order not to say too much — to all of you. **6** Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was inflicted by the majority, **7** so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. **8** Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.