

A couple is sitting in a field of tall grass, looking towards a range of mountains. The scene is peaceful and scenic, with a mix of green and yellow grass in the foreground and dense evergreen forests on the lower slopes of the mountains. The sky is overcast and grey.

# **The Greatness of Love**

## **(1 Corinthians 13)**

# **1 Corinthians 13:1 (NIV)**

**If I speak in the tongues of men  
and of angels,  
but have not love,  
I am only a resounding gong  
or a clanging cymbal.**

## **1 Corinthians 13:2-3 (NIV)**

**If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom  
all mysteries and all knowledge,  
and if I have a faith that can move  
mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.**

**<sup>3</sup>If I give all I possess to the poor  
and surrender my body to the flames,  
but have not love, I gain nothing.**

**God's Mathematics:**

**Anything - Love = Nothing**



# The Greatness of Love

**1. Love is greater than spiritual activity  
(13:1-3).**

**2.**

**3.**



# **Matthew 22:35-36 (NIV)**

**One of them, an expert in the law,  
tested him with this question:**

**36 “Teacher, which is the greatest  
commandment in the Law?”**



# Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)

**Jesus replied:**

**““Love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your mind.’**

**38 This is the first and greatest  
commandment.**

**39 And the second is like it:  
‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’**

# **1 Corinthians 13:8 (NIV)**

**“Love never fails.  
But where there are prophecies,  
they will cease;  
where there are tongues,  
they will be stilled;  
where there is knowledge,  
it will pass away.”**



# 1 Corinthians 13:9-10 (NIV)

**“For we know in part  
and we prophesy in part,  
<sup>10</sup> but when perfection comes,  
the imperfect disappears.”**



# **1 Corinthians 13:11 (NIV)**

**“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.”**



# **1 Corinthians 13:12 (NIV)**

**“Now we see but a poor reflection  
as in a mirror;  
then we shall see face to face.**

**Now I know in part; then I shall know fully,  
even as I am fully known.**



# **1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)**

**“And now these three remain:  
faith, hope and love.  
But the greatest of these is love.”**



# The Greatness of Love

- 1. Love is greater than spiritual activity (13:1-3).**
- 2. Love is greater because it is eternal (13:8b-13).**
- 3.**



# **1 Corinthians 13:4a (NIV)**

**“Love is patient, love is kind.**



# **1 Corinthians 13:4b-5 (NIV)**

**It does not envy,  
it does not boast,  
it is not proud.**

**<sup>5</sup> It is not rude,  
it is not self-seeking,  
it is not easily angered,  
it keeps no record of wrongs.**

# **1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)**

**Love does not delight in evil  
but rejoices with the truth.**





# **1 Corinthians 13:7 (NIV)**

**It always protects,  
always trusts,  
always hopes,  
always perseveres.”**



# **1 Corinthians 13:8a (NIV)**

**Love never fails.**



# The Greatness of Love

- 1. Love is greater than spiritual activity (13:1-3).**
- 2. Love is greater because it is eternal (13:8b-13).**
- 3. Love is greater than ourselves (13:4-8a).**

# Hdi word for “love”

**dvi**  
**dva**  
***dvu***



# Action Points

**1. Share with your family and/or a friend a loving act you have experienced.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**



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- 2. Put all of the negative characteristics of love into positives in 13:4-8a.**
- 3.**
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- 3. Select one of these characteristics and exhibit it today!**
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# Action Points

- 1. Share with your family and/or a friend a loving act you have experienced.**
- 2. Put all of the negative characteristics of love into positives in 13:4-8a.**
- 3. Select one of these characteristics and exhibit it today!**
- 4. Articulate your love to someone today!**