

# Life's Indispensables

*"Without The Shedding of Blood There Is No Forgiveness  
(1 Corinthians 13:1-3)*

- Introduction:
1. Every vocation or profession requires certain tools to accomplish its work.
  2. The same is true with regard to our Christian vocation - If we are to faithfully arrive at Heaven, there are some things we must possess that we cannot do without.
  3. We are to be known by our love (John 13:35).
  3. This series of lessons will address several of life's indispensables.

## I. Without Love, I Am Nothing

- A. (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).
- B. (1 John 4:20-21) **If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.**
- C. Love is a more excellent way.
  1. Other gifts, as great as they may be, are worthless without love.
  2. While we don't have spiritual gifts today, for many people life is measured by money, pleasure, health, education, and power.
  3. Even if one has all these things, without love they are nothing.

## II. The Qualities Of Genuine Love

- A. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).
- B. We should measure ourselves by the standard or template revealed in this section of Scripture.
- C. Marks of genuine love.

1. Suffers long.	9. Thinks no evil.
2. Kind.	10. Doesn't rejoice in iniquity
3. Doesn't envy.	11. Rejoices in the truth.
4. Doesn't parade itself.	12. Bears all things.
5. Isn't puffed up.	13. Believes all things.
6. Isn't rude.	14. Hopes all things.
7. Doesn't seek its own.	15. Endures all things.
8. Isn't provoked.	16. Love never fails.

- Conclusion:
1. Love is beautiful and easy in the abstract, but put a face to it, and it becomes a challenge.
  2. It's time to quit playing at Christianity and get down to the business of being imitators of Jesus.
  3. We cannot change history, but we can choose to do good; to love each other and promote unity in the present and in the future.
  4. (1 Peter 4:8) **And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."**