



FALLING INTO LOVE

PART ONE

MARCH 27–31 | DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG

Can you remember what it was like to fall in love? Did you think it would last forever? Let's consider our need for a love that lasts forever. Not just in a romantic or moralistic sense, but in the realism of our own dreams and disappointments.

Jesus personified this love and urged His disciples to make it a priority. Years later, a messenger by the name of Paul wrote a letter to followers of Jesus in the Greek city of Corinth. It is this very letter that illustrated to Jesus's followers—then and now—the path to discovering and knowing God's divine love in our lives.



THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does the Corinthian way of "breaking bread" (1 Corinthians 11:17–30) combined with the actions of Jesus's disciples at the Last Supper (Luke 22:14–27) help us to see what's missing in this picture (1 Cor. 13:1–3)?
- Paul was a Moses scholar with a life-changing story (Acts 22:1–16). Apollos was known for eloquence and persuasion (Acts 18:24–28). How did the Corinthians' fascination with the actions of these men (1 Cor. 3:4–5) serve as examples of God's divine love (13:1–3).
- How did a wealth of God-given knowledge (1 Cor. 1:4–9) become an obstacle for the Corinthians in their faith journey?
- Early English translations of the Bible used the word charity instead of the word love in 1 Corinthians. Methodist founder, John Wesley believed that the use of a word that implied outward action rather than an inner motive has had negative effects to this day. Can you see how Wesley's concern might explain Paul's thought of charity without love in 1 Corinthians 13:3?



CHALLENGE

Note the relational tensions in your home, work site, and place of worship. How can we implement what Paul teaches in his first letter to the Corinthians in the various environments in which we spend time? What could you do to show love to someone in your life?



COMMIT TO MEMORY

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:1-3).



PRAYER

Father, please don't let us waste this moment of insight. Thank You for being so patient, so kind, and so ready to forgive and renew us. Help us fall into love again—with You and one another, because You first loved us and led us into this moment of wanting to be true to You together, amen.