



Love Is... | Week 1
Daniel Goulding | 11.20.2022

BIG IDEA | God's greatest weapon is *LOVE*. His greatest instrument is *US*.

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John 13:35 (NLT)

³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

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Matthew 22:37-40 (NLT)

³⁷ Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

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1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NLT)

¹ If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. ³ If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no

record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

⁸ Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! ⁹ Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! ¹⁰ But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless.

¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. ¹² Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.

¹³ Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

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1 Corinthians 13:4 (NLT)

⁴ *Love is patient* and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ...

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Makrothumeo: “long” (makro) and “wrath” (thumos).
KJV - “long-suffering.”

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WHY IS PATIENCE IMPORTANT:

1. Everyone is *DIFFERENT*.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NLT)

⁴ There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶ God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

- Different *Spiritual Gifts*
- Different *Hearts*
- Different *Abilities*
- Different *Personalities*
- Different *Experiences*

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2. Differences cause *MISUNDERSTANDINGS*.

1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.

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HOW TO BE MORE PATIENT WITH PEOPLE:

1. Remember how patient God is with *YOU*.

1 Timothy 1:16 (NLT)

¹⁶ But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

Romans 15:7 (NLT)

⁷ Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

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2. Learn to *UNDERSTAND*.

Proverbs 19:11a (NIV)

¹¹ A person's wisdom yields patience;

Proverbs 14:29a (NIV)

²⁹ Whoever is patient has great understanding,

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3. Make *ALLOWANCES* for each other.

Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

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4. Treat others the *WAY* you *WANT* to be treated.

Matthew 7:12 (NLT)

¹² "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.

Phillippians 2:4-5 (NLT)

⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

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Matthew 25:44-45 (NLT)

⁴⁴ "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

⁴⁵ "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'