

Every Spiritual Family Needs Open Hearts



Introduction:

1. "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
(John 13:15)
 2. There needs to be more open hearts found within the church today:
 - a. Open hearts of forgiveness,
 - b. Open hearts of gratitude,
 - c. Open hearts of concern,
 - d. Open hearts to overlook faults,
 - e. Open hearts to care.
- I. **Open Hearts (Love) and Oneself – *It begins with self***
- A. Love does not envy (1 Corinthians 13:4).
 1. "A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rottenness to the bones."
(Proverbs 14:30)
 2. (Philippians 4:11)
 - B. Love does not parade itself (1 Corinthians 13:4)
 1. "Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord..." (James 4:10)
 - C. Love is not puffed up (1 Corinthians 13:4).
 1. (Philippians 2:5-8)
- II. **Open Hearts (Love) and Others – *Love is shown to others***
- A. Love is not rude (1 Corinthians 13:5).
 1. "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love..." (Romans 12:10)
 2. "And be kind to one another..." (Ephesians 4:32)
 - B. Love does not seek its own (1 Corinthians 13:5).
 1. "... in honor giving preference to one another." (Romans 12:10)
 2. (Philippians 2:3,4)
 - C. Love is not provoked (1 Corinthians 13:5).
 1. (James 1:19,20)
 2. Put away all anger (Ephesians 4:31).
- III. **Open Hearts (Love) and Offenses – *Love involves forgiveness***
- A. Love thinks no evil (1 Corinthians 13:5).
 1. How much should one forgive? (Matthew 18:21,22)
 2. "...even as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)
 - B. Love does not rejoice in iniquity (1 Corinthians 13:6).
 1. Love rejoices in repentance (Luke 15:7,10)
 - C. Love rejoices in truth (1 Corinthians 13:6)
 1. What is truth? (John 17:17)
 2. The truth makes one free (John 8:32).

(over for additional notes)

IV. Open Hearts (Love) and Sinners – *Sharing, helping and growing*

- A. Love bears all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).
 - 1. “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)
 - 2. (Romans 15:1,2)
- B. Love believes all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).
 - 1. (Hebrews 11:6)
- C. Love hopes all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).
 - 1. God is love (1 John 4:8). Our hope is in the Lord (Psalm 39:7)
 - 2. (Hebrews 7:19)
- D. Love endures all things (1 Corinthians 13:7).
 - 1. Endurance takes patience and can take suffering (1 Corinthians 13:4).
 - 2. (James 1:12)



Conclusion:

- 1. The love that God showed each person needs to be shown in the life of every Christian (1 John 4:11).
- 2. Loving God involves actions (1 John 5:3).
 - a. “If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15).
 - b. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love” (John 15:10).

