

## Daily Bible Readings

**Our Read-Ahead for: 02 October 2022**

### ***Faith Requires Mutual Love***

**Monday:** I Love You, O Lord (**Psalm 18:1–6**)

**Tuesday:** Faithful Love (**Deuteronomy 7:7–11**)

**Wednesday:** Obedient Love (**Deuteronomy 5:6–10**)

**Thursday:** Taught to Love (**Deuteronomy 6:1–9**)

**Friday:** Love One Another (**John 13:31–35**)

**Saturday:** Love Your Enemies (**Luke 6:27–36**)

**Sunday:** Faith, Hope, and Love (**Hebrews 13:1–3; 1 Corinthians 13**)

## **Faith Requires Mutual Love**

Bible Background: **Hebrews 13:1–6; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13**

Printed Text: **Hebrews 13:1–3; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13**

Devotional Reading: **John 13:31–35**

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**Keep in Mind:** *“And now abides faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:13, KJV)*

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### *Focal Verses*

#### **Hebrews 13:1–3**

Let brotherly love continue.

**2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.**

3 Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:1-13**

**1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.**

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

**3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profits me nothing.**

4 Charity suffer long, and is kind; charity envies not; charity boasts not itself, is not puffed up,

**5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeks not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;**

6 Rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

**7 Bears all things, believeth all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

8 Charity never fails: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

**9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.**

10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

**11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.**

12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

**13 And now abides these three faith, hope and charity; but the greatest of these is charity.**

### **Aim for Change**

*By the end of the lesson, we will: **DEFINE** Christian love and discuss its implications; **REFLECT** on the ways we experience Christian love in our lives; and **PRACTICE** love as it is rooted in our faith in Christ.*

### **In Focus**

*Nothing can replace our love for others. Working on their behalf is fine, but it is meaningless unless our work is motivated by love. In today's lesson, we will see how Christian love is essential to effective ministry.*

## **I. The People, Places and Times**

**Corinth:** Corinth was socially, culturally, and religiously diverse. In fact, in 49 A.D. Jews who were expelled from Rome resettled in Corinth. The Christians of Corinth reflected the diversity of the city. Congregations included the wealthy, merchants, enslaved individuals, and those who were formerly enslaved. Corinth was home to numerous temples dedicated to pagan gods and goddesses including Apollo, Hermes, Isis, Poseidon, and the Pantheon, which is a temple dedicated to those gods. When Paul arrived in Corinth (about 50 A.D.) the city's reputation for immorality was widely recognized. The infamous temple of Aphrodite had fallen into ruins but was home to hundreds of "temple prostitutes," making it popular with the numerous sailors visiting the city. The Greek word *korinthiazesthai*, which means to live like a Corinthian, meant that one lived immorally.

**Background:** In Paul's letter to the believers in Corinth, we see the challenges that faced the early church. Corinth was a large metropolis with a diverse population. The house churches that the Corinthian Christians worshiped reflected the city's diversity. One issue

Paul addressed to the Corinthians was unity among themselves, emphasizing the importance of their relationships with one another.

## **II. In Depth**

1. A Plea for Brotherly Love (Hebrews 13:1–3)
2. Love is the Basis of Our Faith (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:1–3)
3. Love is the Proof of Our Gifts (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13: 4–7)
4. Love is Permanent (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13: 8–13)

## **III. Take Aways**

## **IV. Announcements**

## **V. Closing Prayer**