

# **Eight Words to Change Your Family For Life**

## **Word # 7 Love**

**Pastor Rick Edwards**

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 13**

**Scripture has so much to say about the transforming power of love, and about what it can do for a broken marriage, a severed relationship, or a struggling family.**

### **Scripture tell us:**

Love is a family debt worth having. “Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another” (Romans 13:8).

Love keeps our families thinking clear. “If we are of sound mind, it is ... the love of Christ that controls us” (2 Corinthians 5:13–14).

Love fuels family harmony. “Walk ... with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love” (Ephesians 4:1–2).

Love binds our families together. “Their hearts have been knit together in love” (Colossians 2:2).

Love keeps us from focusing on family failures. “Keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8).

God’s love allows us to conquer every family obstacle. “In all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us” (Romans 8:37)

### **Is there anything better than Love?**

#### **1 Corinthians 13**

\*Talk V 1

\*Knowledge V 2

\*Faith V 2

\* Compassion V 3

\* Sacrifice V 3

**Love is Powerful** 1 Corinthians V 8

**Love is Proof** 1 John 3:13-14

**Love defined**

**UB4ME**

### **Is Your Love Growing**

1 John 3:16

Are the following love statements true of you:

\* I love more people than ever before

- \* I love more kinds of people than ever before
- \* I love over longer periods than ever before
- \* I love at home better than ever before

### **Love is practical**

1 John 3:17-18

What is your love language? (Gary Chapman)

- \* Words of affirmation
- \* Quality Time
- \* Receiving gifts
- \* Acts of service
- \* Physical touch

### **Love is the greatest thing!**

1 Corinthians 13:13

The more I love, the more confidence I have. The more confidence I have, the more I pray. The more I pray, the more I see answers to prayer. The more I see answers to prayer, the more I want to keep living for God.

### **The Christian life really works.**

And it all starts with love. Love leads to confidence; confidence leads to prayer; prayer leads to answers; answers to more obedience. Love fuels the whole thing. Love is the greatest thing!!

### **A PRAYER TO GO HIGHER**

**Lord, thank You for Your cross of love. Thank You for Your nail-pierced hands and feet, and for the blood that flowed from Your side. What a picture of sacrificial love! Lord, draw me close to Your cross, and remind me of what it means to give and to spend myself for others. Forgive me for my selfish, sinful ways, and help me be a person who loves. Lord, make me the most loving person in my family. God, make me the most loving person in my marriage. Cause me to stop keeping score all the time. Give me persevering love, not just when things are wonderful and delightful, but also when they are difficult and frustrating. May Your cross stir within me a supernatural capacity to love my family. Help me to see love as the transforming influence that it is. Lord Jesus, thank You for being my example. I pray this in Your name.**