

The Book of I Corinthians

2

Morning Devotions

Read a Scripture passage of your choice. Talk with the Lord as you read his Word. When you are finished, go back and select one or two verses that you believe the Lord is using to speak to your heart. Meditate thoughtfully and prayerfully on what he is saying to you.

Morning Study

Today we will be reading **1 Corinthians 13**. In this chapter is often called “The Chapter of Love” and for good reason, but it is important to see it in its context of Paul’s discussion on the gifts of the Spirit (in **chapter 12** and **chapter 14**). To see this context, first read **1 Corinthians 12: 31 and 14:1**).

Chapter 13 can be divided into three subsections. Read each subsection and answer the questions associated with them. Type out your answers (or jot them down on a piece of paper) and file them together with your morning study.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

- What is the single most important ingredient in life’s activities, without which all the good things we might do are meaningless? (**13:1-3**).
- How does **13:1-2** relate to **12:7-10**?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

- How do the descriptions of love listed in **13:4** relate to the rest of the book of **1 Corinthians**? (note particularly **1:10-12; 3:3; 4:6-13; 5:6**).
- How do the descriptions of love listed in **13:5** relate to the rest of the book of **1 Corinthians**? (note particularly **6:1-8**).

Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

- What is it that never fails and how does this compare with the gifts of the Spirit? (**13:8-10**).
- What two imperfect things does Paul liken the operation of the gifts of the Spirit to in **13:11-12**?
- What are the three things that remain and which is the greatest? (**13:13**).

Memory Verse

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy,
it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude,
it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!