



Flood Blantyre

Awakening a City of Hope

Our mission is to serve the city in love and faith with authentic connections to develop a movement of hope filled people rooted in Yesu.



RELATIONSHIP GOALS



1 Corinthians 13:7

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.



1 Corinthians 13: 1- 7



**In our relationships we tend to ask the questions:
“Is this person safe?” and “Am I safe with this person?”**

These are wise questions to ask, but...

**The kind of love Paul is talking about in 1 Corinthians 13
is a different kind of love; it flips the questions.**

1 Corinthians 13 Love...


- doesn't stop at asking:
“Is he/she safe for me to be around?”
- instead it asks: “Am I safe for them to be around?”
- doesn't stop at asking: “Can he/she be trusted?”
- instead it does ask: “Can I be trusted?”

Reality: you probably are safe, you probably can be trusted,
but not all the time.

No one can be trusted all the time, except for Jesus.



Truth #1: Trust people, but only *entrust* yourself to Jesus


- To *trust* is to place confidence in; to rely on; to confide in.
 - To *entrust* is to trust to the care of others; to give to someone to guard or take responsibility for.
 - We should trust people, but we should only entrust ourselves (only offer ourselves to be fully guarded and cared for) to Jesus
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“Love bears all things...”

- 1 Corinthians 13:7
- **We must entrust ourselves to Jesus so that we can endure the hurts that come with loving others.**
 - Bearing all things does not mean staying in an abusive place; Abusive relationships have no place in the kingdom of God. Love is never overpowering or domineering. Love does not ask us to stay where we are being destroyed.
 - But naturally, loving others will involve being hurt, and when we love, we bear those hurts. Usually, this bearing is not even public—we don't get credit for it, we do it silently, for the sake of love.




Truth #2: We entrust ourselves to Jesus because through him we can overlook other people's faults.

- Bearing all things means enduring the faults of others
 - Bearing all things also means protecting and covering others
 - This means we do not shame people for their failures
 - This means we are not judgmental when people fall into sin
 - **Entrusting our lives to Jesus allows us to see our own sins, our own failures, and our own redemption through him. This allows us to trust Jesus to redeem those around us, too.**
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Truth #3: We entrust ourselves to Jesus so we can believe the best in people.

- 1 Corinthians 13:7 also says “Love *believes* all things”
 - “The Fundamental Attribution Error”: to attribute intent to people’s actions; assuming the reason behind people’s actions.
 - *The only way you can ever actually know someone’s intent is when they tell you what it was.*
 - Love chooses to believe the best in others, no matter what we might want to assume about them based on what we have observed. Entrusting ourselves to Jesus allows us to do this.
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Love is Risky

- Loving the way Jesus loved is actually NOT safe...
- **We are changed by a love that was not safely given.**
 - Jesus was not being safe when he gave us his love; He gave himself away knowing he would be hurt, betrayed, and die.
- To love like Jesus means to love even when we expect to be hurt, rejected, or burned. We love anyway.
- We have to love others not because it is safe to love them but because Jesus matters more than our safety.

Next Steps

1. Who in your life do you need to change your attitude towards?
2. Who in your life do you need to intentionally show love?
3. Take a moment each day this week to entrust yourself to Jesus so you can love others better ?