**CROSS WORDS**

**An on-line Bible study**

**Lesson 11**

*This week we will look to God’s Word for our eleventh Cross Word. When you learn the Cross Word, please fill in the shaded boxes with each letter of the word. Each week we’ll add another word.*

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Readings, unless noted, taken from:

[*Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/hbehv?ref=BibleEHV.1Jn4.10&off=3&ctx=ive+through+him.+10%EF%BB%BF~This+is+love%3a+not+th). (2019). Milwaukee, WI: Northwestern Publishing House.

**John 3:16**

**16“For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**

**1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

**13 If I** **speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2If I have the gift of prophecy and know all the mysteries and have all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3If I give away everything I own, and if I give up my body that I may be burned but do not have love, I gain nothing.**

**4Love is patient. Love is kind. Love does not envy. It does not brag. It is not arrogant. 5It does not behave indecently. It is not selfish. It is not irritable. It does not keep a record of wrongs. 6It does not rejoice over unrighteousness but rejoices with the truth. 7It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**8Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophetic gifts, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be done away with. 9For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, 10but when that which is complete has come, that which is partial will be done away with. 11When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put away childish things. 12Now we see indirectly using a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, just as I was fully known.**

**13So now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.**

**1. Textual Thoughts**

* **For** – In the Greek this adverb connects the previous point with what follows in this verse, John 3:16. We could also translate “so, in this way.”
* **Love** – The Greek verb used here is ***agapao***. The noun is ***agape***. This kind of love belongs to God and those who believe in him. See readings at the end of this lesson to learn more fully how this word is used.
* **Gave** – The word is in the past tense. God’s giving of his Son happened in God’s mind in the past. The giving happened in the past. Ever since the day the LORD promised that the offspring of the woman would crush the serpent’s head, God gave his Son.
* **His only begotten Son/His one and only Son –** The phrase centers in on the fact that the Savior-Son was unique. He is a one of a kind. There is none like him. He is begotten of his Father from all eternity.
* When St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, he describes what this agape love is and how it is demonstrated in the lives of the believers. He does this both positively and negatively.
* Spend some time to grow in your understanding what it means to live a life with God’s kind of love. What motivates this kind of love? From where does this love come? How does it develop and grow? What makes this kind of love different from every other kind of worldly love?

**2. What do John 3:16 and 1 Corinthians 13 teach us?**

* What does John connect 3:16 to?
* Where does the LORD specifically demonstrate his love according to John?
* How does the love God has had for us lead us to respond by living a life of love?
* According to Paul, what demonstrates a lack of agape love?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

* How does St. Paul characterize what love is?

**PAUL DESCRIBES LOVE**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **WHAT LOVE IS** | **WHAT LOVE DOES NOT DO** | **WHAT LOVE DOES** |
|  |  |  |

* Why does some gifts end, gifts like knowledge, tongues, prophesy, and prophetic gifts?
* Why is love the greatest gift, even greater than faith and hope?

**3. Our CrossWord for this week is \_LOVE\_**

**4. For further study**

* **Read all of 1 John**
* **Romans 5:8**
* **Ephesians 2:4**
* **1 John 4:9**
* **1 John 4:10**
* **John 13:34**
* **Luke 16:13**
* **1 John 4:19**
* **Romans 13:10**