

October 2, 2016

Snapshots of Love: What Love Does by Dr. Richard Rogers

1 Corinthians 13:7-8 (Listen Online)

A Special Note: As our Snapshots of Love series draws to a close, Dig Deeper will take a hiatus for a season as we transfer our efforts into the production of new materials meant to spur spiritual growth. You will see these resources online and in print over the coming months.

THE BIG IDEA

Love never stops acting on behalf of others, regardless the cost. In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul reminds us of this by the way he characterizes love in that it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. In this week's sermon, we see that those are not Hallmark-movie characteristics of love. Rather, they require courage, wisdom, honor, and a sense of duty if we hope to love this way—as Jesus loved us.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, coworkers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, <u>tell us about it</u>.)

• Is it possible to love everyone? Why or why not?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Do you believe that people can change? How does the Bible inform your answer? And how does your answer affect how you act on a daily basis?
- Who has demonstrated a love that "bears all things" for you? Who stuck around when it would have been much easier to cut and run?
- When have you found yourself tempted to give up on someone who was difficult to love? Maybe you thought, "They are who they are, and they'll never change." Did you give up?
- In what way(s) does Jesus' love for you enable you to "endure all things" in love? Where can this kind of enduring love be put into action in your own life this week?

GO DEEPER

- NT Wright summarizes our series well by reminding us why we are talking so much about love and trying so hard to practice it.
- This short devotional helps us see how love *hopes all things* by pointing out four places in Scripture where <u>hope informs our love</u>.
- Jason DeRouchie shows us where love comes from and what it's aimed at.
- Tabletalk Magazine reminds us how <u>this week's passage has real implications for a world</u> where love is risky and being wounded by others is always a possibility.

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

"Engaging people one-on-one is how we train ourselves in love." Think of someone who needs to know a love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. This may be someone who you see on a regular basis, someone experience a difficult time right now, or someone you wouldn't normally interact with. How can you demonstrate the love of God to them? Will you make time to engage them one-on-one to do just that?

