

1 Corinthians 13

King James Version (KJV)

13 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. (A tinkling sound blowing in the wind, conveying no message; we need charity <love> to communicate successfully)

²And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. (With prophecy and knowledge, we need to convey the love and charity that God conveys to us. Sometimes love can be tough love if someone is headed in the wrong direction)

³And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. (To love others is to help them find salvation. It's more than just sharing what you have in the world. Love takes compassion for others, even when they mess up)

⁴Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, (Charity is humility, patience, compassion, forgiveness, understanding)

⁵Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; (Not selfish or rude; it looks on the positive side of things)

⁶Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; (Be happy for others when they succeed; not when they fail. Life not a competition)

⁷Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. (Stay positive; stay on the side of good)

⁸Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. (tongues = foreign languages, as in bilingual) (Charity and love will prevail over knowledge and other gifts, though both are important)

(You can know the Bible by heart and understand it perfectly, but if you don't have love and compassion for others, you will not succeed)

⁹For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. (We learn God's Word as best as we can. We learn more every time that we read it)

¹⁰But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. (On the Lord's Day, we won't need our gifts. What we will bring with us in the afterlife is our good works, not our knowledge)

¹¹When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. (I matured both in my thinking and in my doings)

¹²For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. (In this life we can only see things partially; but in the spirit we will see everything clearly)

¹³And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. (Charity = love and compassion) (Jesus said - love God above all else; love your neighbor as you love yourself)