

# Have you taken the “Love Test?”

**1. I Corinthians 13 is often called “The Love Chapter.”** You have heard it many times in weddings; but do you understand exactly what it means? Below, we will read the “Love Chapter” in your choice of either the King James Version (traditional for weddings), or the New International Version (most popular version used today); and then we will read the original Greek definitions of each of the 15 tests of true love.

**So, before you can truly say “I love you,” you must pass the 15 tests of your love! So, get the one or ones you love, and let’s take God’s “Love Test.”**

**A. I Corinthians 13:1-8 (KJV):** *“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And 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 (love), I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity (love), it profiteth me nothing.*

*Charity (love) suffereth long, and is kind; charity (love) envieth not; charity (love) vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, endureth all things. Charity (love) never faileth.”*

**B. I Corinthians 13:1-8 (NIV):** *“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love I gain nothing.*

*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, keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”*

**(1) Are you “PATIENT” (“SUFFERETH LONG”) with the one(s) you love?**

**(a)** The original Greek word here is MAKROTHUMIA, which is translates: *“long-suffering, long-tempered; patient.”*

**(b)** When you go through long periods of suffering with the one or ones you love, are you patient with them and control your temper?

**(2) Are you “KIND” to the one(s) you love?**

(a) The original Greek word here is CHRESTOS, which translates: *“kindness of heart, serviceable (always ready to serve), good, pleasant, gracious (showing courtesy, charm, mercy, compassion, polite).”*

**(3) Are you “ENVIOUS” of the one(s) you love?**

(a) The original Greek word here is ZELOS, which translates: *“desires to deprive another of what he or she has.”*

(b) Are you happy about your loved-one’s talents, abilities, job, appearance, intellect, achievements, good fortune, friends, popularity, etc.; or, are you jealous to the point of secretly wishing they didn’t have these things?

**(4) Do you “BOAST” (“VAUNTETH NOT ITSELF”)...about yourself?**

(a) The original Greek word here is PERPEREUOMAI, which translates: *“to boast or vaunt oneself, vainglorious, braggart.”*

(b) Do you boast and brag about yourself in order to make your loved one feel inferior?

**(5) Are you “PROUD” (“PUFFED UP”)...of yourself?**

(a) The original Greek word here is PHUSIOO, which translates: *“to puff up, inflate with pride.”*

(b) Are you proud of yourself, or the one(s) you love? Do you brag about yourself or the one(s) you love? Do you make your loved one(s) feel superior, or inferior to you?

**(6) Are you ever “RUDE” (“BEHAVE UNSEEMLY”) to the one(s) you love?**

(a) The original Greek word here is ASCHEMOSUNE, which translates: *“unseemly, rude, to bring disgrace or embarrass.”*

**(7) Are you “SELF-SEEKING” (“SEEKETH NOT HER OWN”)?**

(a) The original Greek literally says: *“does not seek things of itself.”*

(b) Do you look for things that will gratify your own desires or your loved one(s)’ desires? When you watch TV, spend money, go somewhere, do anything — who’s desires come first?

**(8) Are you “EASILY ANGERED” (“EASILY PROVOKED”) by your loved one(s)?**

**(a)** The original Greek word here is PAROXUNO, which translates: “*to rouse to anger, to provoke.*”

**(b)** Can you control your anger when you are talking with your loved one(s)? Can you hit or cuss out someone you really love?

**(9) Do you “KEEP A RECORD OF WRONGS” (“THINKETH EVIL”) about your loved one(s)?**

**(a)** The original Greek literally says: “*does not reckon the evil.*” The word for “*reckon*” is LOGIZOMAI, which translates: “*of numerical calculation...by a reckoning of characteristics or reasons, to take into account, consider, judge.*” The word for “*evil*” is the Greek word KAKON, which translates: “*evil things.*”

**(b)** Do you keep a list of bad things your loved one(s) have done, so you can pull it out later to remind them?

**(10) Do you “DELIGHT IN EVIL, OR REJOICE WITH THE TRUTH” (“REJOICETH IN INIQUITY, OR IN THE TRUTH”)?**

**(a)** The original Greek, the word for “*evil*” or “*iniquity*,” is ADIKIA, which translates: “*a condition of not being right.*” “*Truth*,” is the Greek word ALETHEIA, which translates: “*truth; the reality lying at the basis of an appearance.*”

**(b)** Do you try to catch your loved one(s) saying or doing something that’s “*not right*,” so you can make them “*appear*” look bad; or, do you try and make them “*appear*” to look good?

**(11) Do you “PROTECT” (“BEARETH ALL THINGS”) your loved one(s)?**

**(a)** The original Greek word is STEGO, which translates: “*to protect...to cover over with silence; to keep secret; to hide and excuse the errors and faults of others.*”

**(b)** Do you “*protect*” your loved one(s) by keeping quiet about things they may have done or said in the past that would not want others to know about?

**(12) Do you “ALWAYS TRUST” (“BELIEVE”) your loved one(s)?**

**(a)** The original Greek word is PISTEUO, which translates: *“believe, place confidence in, trust.”*

**(b)** Do you ever check up on your loved one(s), to see what they really said, or where they really were, or who they were really with?

**(13) Have you ever given up “HOPE” for your loved one(s)?**

**(a)** The original Greek word is ELPIZO, which translates: *“to hope”*

**(b)** Have you given up on them, or do you still have *“hope?”*

**(14) Are you willing to “PERSEVERE” (“ENDURE”) with your loved one(s) no matter how bad things get?**

**(a)** The original Greek word is HUPOMENO, which translates: *“to bear up courageously under suffering, to wait for.”*

**(b)** When things get bad, how long will you wait for your loved one(s) before you give up on them?

**(15) Have you ever “FAILED” the one(s) you love?**

**(a)** The original Greek word is PIPTO, which translates: *“to fall, is used of persons, in falling morally or spiritually.”*

**(b)** Would you ever fail them by *falling morally* (adultery, drunkenness, slander, cheating, stealing, lying), or *spiritually* (no longer living as a faithful Christian under God’s commands as outlined in the Bible)?