



**“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.”**

**Revelation 22:1**

**John 13:35 NIV**

**“By this all men will know  
that you are my disciples,  
if you love one another.”**

# **“Discipleship Essentials: Love’s Final Triad”**

**-- Part 5 of 5 sermons –**

**Based upon**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8**

**[www.hsdac.org](http://www.hsdac.org)**

**Sermon notes and slides available**

**I Corinthians 13:7**

**"[Love] always hopes"**

**"Sees the bright side of things.**

**Does not despair."**

**--Robertson's Word Pictures--**

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**I Corinthians 13:7**

**“[Love] always  
perseveres**

**“endures all things” NKJV**

**I Corinthians 13:8**  
**“Love never fails”**  
**does not “fall from it’s place”**

**“Genuine love does not  
fall off like a leaf or  
flower.”**

**SDA Bible Commentary**

**This triad (hopes,  
endures, does not fail)  
explores a singular  
quality of love from three  
angles. Simply stated:**

**God-like love is  
not a quitter**



**1. It does not throw in the towel when faced with setbacks and challenges**

**2. Love looks for the good and is a cheerleader for the positive**

**3. Love adapts. It keeps looking for a way through, over or around the walls that separate and divide**

**4. These qualities of love declare, “conflict will not undo us!” Nothing is too big for love to conquer if it’s given a chance**

**5. Christ-like love  
expects, it believes  
love it will triumph  
in the end**

**6. Therefore, love is  
always in heart or  
action, moving  
toward rather than  
away**

**So where in the biblical  
story of God's love do we  
see Christ--compelled by  
love--moving toward  
others?**

# **A tale of two gardens**



**Genesis 3:8**  
**First garden: Eden**

**Matthew 26:36**

**Second garden:**

**Gethsemane**

**Other examples of  
“approaching” love**

**Luke 15:1-7**

**The persistent shepherd  
Example**

**Example: Matthew**  
**Matthew 9:8**

**Jesus “walked toward”  
Matthew the tax  
collector. He invited a  
lost sheep from within  
the flock of Israel to join  
His team.**

**Luke 15:8**

**The persevering woman**

**Example: Woman at  
the well  
John 4**



**At the well, Jesus  
purposefully goes out of  
his way to seek out a  
spiritually clueless  
woman who is outside  
the household of faith**

**Luke 15:11**  
**The “leaning” father**

**Example: Peter**  
**Mark 16:7 “tell Peter”**

**Jesus' heart leaned toward Peter even after Peter's great betrayal of his Master. He waited and allowed Peter to come to Him on his terms.**

**How does your love  
measure up to Christ's?**

**Are you in heart or  
actions walking toward or  
away from those Jesus  
has called you to love?**

**“Love is” . . .**  
**one more time**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8a NIV**  
**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, it 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.**

# **Bold Prayer**

**John 13:35; 3:16 NIV KJV**

**“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”**

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.”**