

September 27, 2015
A Trip around the Sun: Part 4—Love
Text I Corinthians 13:1-7
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1. What is a memorable event of your Sept. 2014-Sept. 2015 trip around the sun?
2. If you can, discuss a circumstance that might have knocked you down or made you question your faith in your last trip around the sun.
3. I Corinthians 12 helped the Corinth church to clear up misunderstandings about gifts various people possessed to benefit the church and concludes by saying “And now I will show you the most excellent way.” Before he defines and discusses the excellent way of love in the following chapter 13, he seems to underscore love’s supremacy and all-importance in vv. 1-3. Read those verses together.
 - *What does a clanging cymbal communicate? In that respect, what does this verse say about even the most talented teachers and preachers?
 - *What might cause someone to give everything they have to the poor or their body to be burned *besides* love?
 - *Is it fair to say no matter what we say, know, or do, if we don’t love it means nothing; in fact, we ARE nothing?
4. I Corinthians 13: 4-7, a very famous passage, used among other things in weddings, defines love. Before reading the passage, see if you can put together the verses by doing the following:
 - List the two qualities that follow “Love is.”
 - Two that follow “It does not.”
 - Four that follow “It is not.”
 - List two other qualities.
 - What are the four things love always does?
 - Did you start out your marriage with these qualities? Which one still most needs work?
5. How did Jesus embody all these traits?
6. Read John 13:34.
 - *How is loving a “new” commandment? *How should we love? *Who should we love?
 - *What is one of the reasons to love given here?
7. Which of the qualities do you have the most problem being or doing?
Does it seem like God is growing one of these traits in you?
8. How has God used the love of another to draw you to Him?

9. Dan talked about not loving but then learning to love his sister-in-law. Who do you need to love better? What makes it difficult? What might be a first step you can take to loving this person?