



Sunday, February 2, 2025

## Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

*Love cures people — both the ones who give it and the ones who receive it.  
—Karl A. Menninger*

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Sir Winston Churchill, who led Britain through its darkest hours, was a man of many notable accomplishments. He is recognized as one of the great leaders in world history. But of his life's work, he said: "My most brilliant achievement was my ability to be able to persuade my wife to marry me." He and his beloved Clementine were married in 1908, and remained married until his death 56 years later.

Of course, many couples have been married longer than the esteemed prime minister. According to *Guinness World Records*, the record is 86 years, 9 months, and 16 days, and it belongs to Herbert and Zelmyra Fisher. They were married in 1924, 18 and 16 years old at the time, and their marriage held up through the Great Depression, World War 2, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and 15 presidential administrations.

Both Herbert and Zelmyra are gone now, both dying at the age of 105. Before they died, they talked about their marriage and some keys to its longevity. They felt it was important for them to respect, support and communicate with each other. Being faithful, honest and true to each other was critical. And, of course, loving each other with all their hearts. They always remembered that marriage is not a contest and it did no good to keep score.

1 Corinthians 13 is often called the "love" chapter of the Bible. What this passage says about love is certainly pertinent to a marriage. No question. But the apostle Paul is primarily writing about what it takes for any relationship to work, whether it is an intimate connection like a spousal or family relationship, a church or neighborly connection or the person who lives in the room or apartment next to you.

"Love is patient," Paul writes. "Love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (vv. 4-7).

Put this advice to work, and any relationship will work!

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: God of love, may I strive to embody the qualities of 1 Corinthians 13 in all my relationships, remembering that love never fails. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

**Daily Bible Readings**

- Sunday: Job 21-24
- Monday: Job 25-27
- Tuesday: Job 28-31
- Wednesday: Job 32-34
- Thursday: Job 35-37
- Friday: Job 38-42
- Saturday: Psalms 10-12

## Verse to Remember

*I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.* —Job 42:2

# MISQUOTED!

**DIRECTIONS:** Rearrange the words to complete the quotation from the book of Proverbs.

KEEP TONGUE OVER TROUBLE OUT  
WATCH MOUTH

“ To \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
is to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ . ”

## Before and After Words

**Directions:** Add a word to the end of the word on the left and the beginning of the word on the right to form two compound words or phrases. The dashes indicate the number of letters in the linking word. For example, if the words were PEANUT \_\_\_\_\_ FLY, the linking word would be BUTTER (peanut butter, butterfly).

1. SALAD \_\_\_\_\_ STOOL
2. ICED \_\_\_\_\_ SET
3. SEA \_\_\_\_\_ TAMER
4. CAR \_\_\_\_\_ PARTY
5. NEWS \_\_\_\_\_ BAG
6. HOT \_\_\_\_\_ CHIP
7. STEAK \_\_\_\_\_ EDGE
8. BACK \_\_\_\_\_ SUIT
9. QUICK \_\_\_\_\_ FISH
10. RAIN \_\_\_\_\_ RACK
11. TREE \_\_\_\_\_ BOAT
12. BED \_\_\_\_\_ MATE
13. TIN \_\_\_\_\_ OPENER
14. BASKET \_\_\_\_\_ TEAM
15. CAR \_\_\_\_\_ STATION

### Romeo and Juliet

Romeo and Juliet are found dead on the floor in a bedroom. When they were discovered, there were pieces of glass and some water on the floor. A shelf and a bed are the only furniture in the room. The house is in a remote location, away from everything except for the nearby railway track. What caused the deaths of Romeo and Juliet?

*Solution below.*

**Romeo and Juliet:**  
Romeo and Juliet are fish. The rumble of the train knocked the tank off the shelf.  
**Misquoted:** Proverbs 21:23, To watch over mouth and tongue is to keep out of trouble.  
**Before and After Words:**  
1. Bar, 2. Tea, 3. Lion, 4. Pool, 5. Paper, 6. Potato, 7. Knife, 8. Track, 9. Silver, 10. Coat, 11. House, 12. Room, 13. Can, 14. Ball, 15. Radio.