INTRODUCTION

- "Love" charity; a choice; choose to be benevolent to another; display of regard.
- Love involves action: (John 3:16) "God so loved the world, that he gave ... "
 (John 14:15) "If you love me, keep my commandments"

(1 Thess. 1:3) "labor of love"

(1 John 3:10) "whosoever doeth not righteousness ... loves not his brother" (John 13:34) "... that ye love one another, as I have loved you ... "

1. LOVE IS BEST - (1 Cor. 12:31) "show I unto you a more excellent way"

(1 Cor. 13:13) "the greatest of these is love" (1 Peter 4:8) "and above all things ..."

2. (1 Cor. 13:1-3) LOVE IS LISTED ABOVE THE GIFTS

"tongues ... prophecy ... understand all mysteries ... have all faith ... feed the poor ... give my body to be burned" "and have not love" "sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal ... I am nothing ... it profits me nothing"

3. (v4-8) THE BEHAVIOR OF LOVE

- "suffers long" be slow to lose patience; it's a fruit of the Spirit.
- 2. "is kind" be like Jesus (Acts 10:38) "who went about doing good"
- 3. "does not envy" (Prov. 14:30) "envy is rottenness of the bones"
- 4, "vaunts not itself" is not self-promoting; does not advertise itself ("Hey, look at me.")
- 5 "is not puffed up" inflated with its own self-wroth; conceited; a blow-hard.
- 6. "does not behave itself unseemly" is discreet; proper conduct; not two-faced.
- 7. "seeks not its own" centered on others; second mile; do more than expected.
- g. "is not easily provoked" not "easily" irritated by habits of others; good disposition.
- % "thinks no evil" innocent until proven guilty. (Phil. 4:8)
- /@ "rejoices not in unrighteousness" not happy hearing about another's transgression.
- "rejoices in the truth" (2 John v4)
- 12, "bears all things" strengthens others; may have to grin 'n bear it myself; keep quiet.
- "believes all things" don't forsake the truth of God's word.
- 14. "hopes ... endures ... never fails"