

LOVE IS LONGSUFFERING & KIND

I. Longsuffering and kindness

A. 1 Cor. 13:4 Love **suffereth long** (passive) and is **kind** (active)

B. Long tempered - forbearing of evil; patient of wrong; long restraint of anger

1. Self-restraint of anger in the face of provocation which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish. Opposite of anger and is associated with mercy.

2. Restraint towards injurious, offensive, provoking people, who do evil & wrong.

C. James 1:19, 20; Pr. 14:17, 29; 15:18; 29:22; Eccl. 7:8, 9

D. Kind – to be gracious, adaptable, compliant, willing to serve/change in order to meet others needs; extending good to others

1. To endure wrong done to you can be the victory of stubbornness

2. To endure gently and deal kindly is the victory of love and grace

II. Love is forbearing and forgiving

A. Colossians 3:12, 13; Ephesians 4:1, 2, 31, 32

B. Things we **do not forbear** or put up with:

- what God hates; willful/repetitive public sin that affects our witness; scoffers/slanderers/strifers; divisive or heretics; teaching false/bad doctrine; crimes or things that violate civil laws

C. Things we **do forbear** or put up with:

- preferences; differing convictions on areas we are free to choose; weaknesses; immaturity; blunders or faults; unbelievers