



Who is God? Well, God is patient, and He is kind. He does not envy or boast. He is not arrogant or rude. He does not insist on his own way. He is not irritable or resentful. He does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. He bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. God never ends and He will not fail.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Ice-Breaker:

(1) Pay attention to your posture (as you sit in your chair). What does your posture say about you?

LOVE IN 1 CORINTHIANS. Have the class read every use of the word "love" in 1 Corinthians besides chapter 13. **Read 1 Cor 2:9; 4:21; 8:1; 8:3; 14:1; 16:22; 16:24.** What do you notice? How does "love" play an important role throughout the book?

GOD IS LOVE. Read 1 John 4:7-8. Notice that "love" is more than an adjective or description here; love is a definition. What does that mean? Love "builds up" (1 Cor 8:1) and God "builds up" (Acts 20:32).

1 CORINTHIANS 13. Have someone read 1 Corinthians 13, substituting "God" every place where it says "love." Consider each characteristic. How does God display that trait? Is this the God you know?

WHAT DOES LOVE REQUIRE? Rebecca DeYoung defines "sloth" as "failing to act as love requires." Think about that definition. Can you name scenarios where we avoid what really needs to be done or said? How is that not loving?

HEAVEN IS A WORLD OF LOVE. Jonathan Edwards famously said heaven is "a world of love." He also claimed that "when we have the least exercise of love, and the most contrary of a spirit, then we have the least of heaven, and are farthest from it in the frame of our mind." Do you find this to be true? Discuss.

PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR POSTURE. Re-read 1 Corinthians 13. Imagine what your "posture" should be toward people/ideas you find to be wrong.