

## Making Relationships Last a Lifetime

### Part 1: "THE SECRET OF LOVE"

Popular Misconceptions About Love:

- \* Love is only a feeling
- \* Love is uncontrollable
- You fall into infatuation
- You grow into love

#### I. Know What Love Is

3 types of love

- **philia** = brotherly/friendship love
- **eros** = romantic/erotic love
- **agape** = unconditional love and commitment

True Love Is A Matter Of . . .

- ✓ choice "And over all the virtues, put on love, which binds them all together." Col. 3:14 (NIV)
- ✓ actions "Let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and truth." 1 John 3:18 (NIV)

#### II. Act Like Love Acts

1. Love is alive when it has time. . . is dying when it is hurried. . . and is dead when it cannot wait.

"Love is patient. . ." 1 Cor. 13:4

"Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love." Eph. 4:2 (LB)

2. Love is alive when it cares. . . is dying when it forgets. . . and is dead when it ignores.

"Love is kind. . ." 1 Cor. 13:4

"be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God has forgiven you." Eph. 4:32 (LB)

3. Love is alive when it's secure. . . is dying when it starts doubting. . . and is dead when it stops trusting.

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud." 1 Cor. 13:4 (NLT)

4. Love is alive when it is giving. . . is dying when it is exchanging. . . and is dead when it is taking.

"love is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." 1 Cor. 13:5

5. Love is alive when it acts its way into a feeling. . . is dying when it feels but doesn't act. . . and is dead when it feels its way into action.

"Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Cor. 13:7

"I can do all things through Christ, because He gives me strength." Phil. 4:13 (NCV)