

# Segment 5: Spiritual Maturity - Scriptures

## 1 Corinthians 13<sup>New Living Translation (NLT)</sup>

### Love Is the Greatest

**13** If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it;<sup>[a]</sup> but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. <sup>6</sup>It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup>Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

<sup>8</sup>Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages<sup>[b]</sup> and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!<sup>9</sup>Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! <sup>10</sup>But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless.

**<sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things.<sup>12</sup>Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity.<sup>[c]</sup> All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.**

<sup>13</sup>Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.