

To love as God calls us to love, we must be willing to allow the Spirit to mold us with these characteristics of love. Love is not merely an emotion, it is a way of being, of living in relationship with God and others. Each day, replace *Love* with your name, or *I*, and seek to be love.

*Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut,  
Love doesn't have a swelled head,  
Love doesn't force itself on others,  
Love isn't always "me first,"  
Love doesn't fly off the handle,  
Love doesn't keep score of the sins of others,  
Love doesn't revel when others grovel,  
Love takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,  
Love puts up with anything,  
Love trusts God always,  
Love always looks for the best,  
Love never looks back,  
but keeps going to the end.*

From 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, Eugene Peterson's *The Message*