



LOVE
VS.

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VS.





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VS.



LOVE vs.
SELFISHNESS

1 Corinthians 13:5
*[Love] is not
self-seeking*



1) A Biblical Perspective on
Selfishness

2) The Pattern of
Selfishness

3) Jesus: our New Pattern
and Power



1) A Biblical Perspective on Selfishness



Translations:

- *does not insist on its own way*
- *is not self-serving*
- *does not seek its own interests*
- *is not selfish*



Selfishness:
A preoccupation with
self



Philippians 2:4

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.



Selfishness:
Self-seeking at the
expense of others



Selfishness always
has a victim.



Biblical Perspective of Selfishness:

Self-preoccupation
at the expense of
others.



2) The Pattern of Selfishness



Love does not seek its
own _____.



Chapter 1-3
Seeking their own
identity at the
expense of spiritual
growth.



1 Corinthians 3:1-2

Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.



Chapters 8-10
Seeking their own
rights at the expense
of the weak.



1 Corinthians 8:10-11

For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge.



Chapter 12
Seeking their own
status at the expense
of those less visible.



Chapter 11
Seeking their own
indulgence at the
expense of the poor.



1 Corinthians 11:20-21
So then, when you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for when you are eating, some of you go ahead with your own private suppers. As a result, one person remains hungry and another gets drunk.





Love does not seek its
own _____.

Career Aspirations?
Wealth?



Sexual Gratification? Fulfillment?



Power?
Control?



Jesus: Our New Pattern and Power



Philippians 2:4-8

Do not look to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus. Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;



Philippians 2:4-8

rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!



A New Power

Romans 5:5

Paul says that the result of our justification...
God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.



We can only give
that which we
possess, and we can
only possess that
which we have
received from God.





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