



WEEK ONE

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8a

Love Is . . .

ASK
THIS

How can you love
others like God does?



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How can you love
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DO
THIS



MORNING TIME

As you greet your preteen this morning ask them, "How can you love others like God does today?" Remind them that the fruit of the Holy Spirit produces love and then hand them some fruit for breakfast.

DO
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REMEMBER THIS

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIRV

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LIFE
APP

LIFE APP—What God is doing in you to
change the world around you

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DON'T DO IT FOR YOUR KIDS

By Carey Nieuwhof

We do so much for our kids:

- work late to ensure we keep climbing the ladder.
- enroll our kids in lessons and activities so they have every opportunity.
- drive them all over town and beyond so they can keep an active social life.
- buy them things they don't really need so they can have every 'advantage.'

But did you ever think that what you do with your kids is as important than what you do for your kids? It's an important distinction. Because often the things we do for our kids takes us away from the time we would could have spent with our kids. This tension exists in every home.

One of the things I treasured most as a kid was the time I spent with my grandparents. They were a like a second set of parents to me. They didn't have a lot of money, but what they did have was time. We did so many things together. Though we sometimes went on excursions, my favorites moments were those spent with them in the every day, ordinary course of life. Some of my fondest memories include:

- helping my grandfather build things in his garage
- eating my grandmother's cooking, then helping my clean up after
- sitting in the backyard in the shade on a hot summer's day
- helping them paint and clean up around the yard
- seeing my grandparents read the Bible at meal times

What they did with me was so powerful. I didn't care that they couldn't do much for me. They couldn't get me into the right school, help me with my homework, get me a good job, or enroll me in sports. They just hung out. But in doing so, they made a lasting contribution to my life. Ironically, by doing so much with me, they did an immeasurable amount for me.

I know as a parent, I have been tempted to justify my hard work, long hours or constant enrollment of my kids in 'programs' as a justification that I'm doing something good for my kids. But in the end, one of the best investments I can make as a parent is what I do with my kids.

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