

The Most Excellent Way

A Small Group Devotional

Always

Week 9

Read 1 Corinthians 13

"[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

- 1 Corinthians 13:7, NIV

Love shapes our perspective, our attitude, and our behavior toward others. It is fundamentally relational. Our relationships are transformed by its presence and compromised by its absence. These characteristics of protection, trust, hope, and perseverance are natural expressions of love's presence rather than the means to manufacture it.

How does who we protect reflect who we love? How does who we choose not to protect reveal who we do not love?

Why is trust so critical to a loving church? Is it owed, earned, or given as a gift?

Why do you think we are quick to be suspicious of others while insisting others trust us?

How can we as imperfect people "always" do any of this? How can perseverance play a role in fulfilling "always" even when we fall short?