

M A C H A I R A
CHRIST COMMONWEALTH-COMMUNITY

By Benjamin Nana Amissah Ansah

MACHAIRA

(Pronounced makh'-ahee-rah)

- Daily revelatory thoughts to sharpen you and to help you grow in deep spiritual understanding and knowledge.
- Scriptures for your daily meditation.
- Daily Christ-centered and apostolic-prophetic prayers.

Monday, 20th February, 2023

THE PRACTICE OF LOVE 4

"...love... is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;" 1 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV)

It's been an interesting journey as we look more into

the practice of love. Note that these things we are discussing from 1 Corinthians 13, are not external laws you are to keep. They are not mere dos and don'ts. They are things you do or don't do, as the love of God captivates your heart. When the love of God unseats any idol of the heart, His love becomes the focus of your gifts. Now let us delve more into the items Apostle Paul listed in 1 Corinthians 13 concerning the practice of love.

We've looked at seven (7) points so far.

8. Love is not provoked

It means to not exasperate or not easily stirred with or aroused to anger or “a sudden outburst”. Love is not easily goaded, because of its virtue of patience. As long as you interact with people, there will be times when someone's speech or attitude may seem to irritate or provoke you to anger. But you have to cultivate the love of God at work in you. Deploy the virtue of patience. Exercise control over the situations; for that is your defense.

"Like a city that is broken into and without walls is a man who has no control over his spirit"

(Proverbs 25:28)

James the apostle shows us the way out of situations where we will be provoked.

"This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger" (James 1:19).

We see Christ showing us this example of handling, controlling and dissolving such exasperating situations. Isaiah in his prophecy, declared concerning Christ:

"He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth." (Isaiah 53:7; See the fulfillment in John 19:8-10)

Beloved, let's be like Christ as His love is poured in our hearts.

9. Love thinks no evil

The greek word the writer used here is, "Logizomai", which means; to reckon, compute,

calculate, count over, to take into account, or make an account of something. To deliberately take records by reckoning up all the reasons, to meditate on, to suppose, deem, or judge. Love takes no record, compute, calculate, nor judge wrongs.

*"In other words, it was through the Anointed One that God was shepherding the world, **not even keeping records of their transgressions**, and he has entrusted to us the ministry of opening the door of reconciliation to God." 2 Corinthians 5:19 (The Passion Translation).*

This is how God demonstrated His love towards us. He doesn't reckon our wrongs. You emulate this by not keeping records of the wrongs others do. The more you act this way the more you grow in the practice of the love of God in you. The love of God is like an ocean; no amount of wrongs can dry it up. This week and this day, demonstrate the unconditional love of Christ to any one that comes in contact with you.

Remain a blessing to others.

Shalom!

DIG DEEPER

(Proverbs 14:29; Proverbs 16:32; Ecclesiastes 7:9; Psalm 32:1; 2 Timothy 4:16)

WE PRAY

That we shall demonstrate the love of Christ to others in every situation.

BIBLE READING IN THE YEAR 2023

Day 21: Genesis 31-34

DECLARE THESE WORDS:

The love of God is at work in me. I exercise the quality of Christ's love. I keep no records of wrong. I maintain an undisturbed composure. No matter the matter I refuse to be easily provoked to anger. My tongue is seasoned. I know when to speak. I speak with love and act without being judgmental.

Hallelujah!!!

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