

1 Cor 13:4-7

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

To end our first week in our daily devotional series on Love. For our fifth thing we will look at concerning love, once again is something that love is not.

Love is not puffed up

Puffed up is pretty simple, because to be puffed up is to be full of pride or full of hot air. One definition of puffed up is: *to inflate, blow up, to cause to swell up*

Think of a balloon that you would blow up. As you blow air in to the balloon, it gets full and stretches. The more you fill it with air (hot air), the bigger it gets. And the more it becomes stretched, the thinner it gets. Too much air or stretching, and what happens? That's right **!!!POP!!!**

So to think about love and **pride** or **puffed up**, is to fill your spouse or person you are dating or family member with empty, meaningless things or words. The more you do it, the more they get stretched until they explode because of the empty talk or lies you give them.

When love is involved there is not a bunch of empty words, but rather words of encouragement and words that lift a person up.

† **1 Thess 5:11 (NLT)** *So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.*

Say all you did was put your husband or wife down all the time. What you are doing is filling them with empty, useless words. After time they would get sick of it and would blow up. But if you give him or her words of encouragement, then it's not emptiness that they are being filled with, but rather something good that they can use to help themselves and in return be a help to others.

Here is something to think about. Is your wife or husband becoming less attractive to you? They just don't seem to have the sparkle that they had when you were dating or when you were first married. Maybe it's not them, but you and how you talk to them or even treat them.

I've heard the story of a woman who wanted to divorce her husband, and not just divorce him, but make him really feel the pain of it. So she got a lawyer that told her to start complimenting him and treating him like a king, then when he least expected it, then she

would drop the D-Bomb on him. She thought that was a great idea so she said she would do it. The Lawyer said he would call her in a couple months to get the divorce started.

So two months later the lawyer called this woman and asked if she was ready to start the paperwork and really make her husbands suffer. Her response to the lawyer was that she had changed her mind and that her and her husband are more in love then they ever had been, and in fact, they were going on a second honeymoon.

Why, all because she started to talk to her husband with kind, loving words and say things to him to build him up. In return he started to do the same for her, so much so that they found that love they almost let die in their marriage, and not only that, it was even better then they had in the past.

Also note this can go the other way guys. Maybe the reason your wife (or girlfriend) is not looking that beautiful, is because how you talk to her and treat her. If you want a hot, gorgeous looking queen in your home, then make her feel like it. After all, she really is, and isn't that one reason why you married her in the first place!

So to end this week on love, let's leave on a good note and something from the bible to try and do over the weekend with those we Love.

† **Heb 10:24 (NLT)** *Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds.*