

## TODAY'S MESSAGE:

### HAPPILY EVER AFTER?

#### “Staying in Love”

*Sunday September 23, 2012*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a



*“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)*

#### I. Some REALITIES of Love...

1. FALLING in love is easier than STAYING in love.
2. Love is not CHEMISTRY or an EMOTION
3. Love is an ACTION, demonstrated by HABITS, PATTERNS and BEHAVIORS.

#### II. The BIBLICAL Description of Love ...

1. PATIENT - doesn't pressure the other person.
2. KIND - takes into consideration the other's feelings.
3. Doesn't ENVY - lets the other “shine.”
4. Doesn't BOAST - doesn't puff self at the other's expense.
5. Is not PROUD - cheers on the other.
6. Is not RUDE - doesn't abandon common courtesy.
7. Is not SELF-SERVING - elevates the needs of the other.
8. Is not EASILY ANGERED - doesn't emotionally explode.
9. Keeps No RECORD of Wrong - doesn't hang onto the past.
10. Doesn't DELIGHT in EVIL - doesn't rejoice in other's mistakes.
11. REJOICES with the TRUTH - willing to confront painful reality.
12. Always PROTECTS - doesn't tear down or enable.
13. Always TRUSTS - willing to be vulnerable again.
14. Always HOPES - convinced that change is possible.
15. Always PERSEVERES - doesn't bail at the first sign of trouble.
16. NEVER FAILS - Love never stops loving.

#### III. APPLICATION ... Give THOUGHT to your ways..

*“The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.” (Proverbs 14:8)*