

"[Love is <u>not]...⁵rude</u>. [Love] does <u>not demand its own</u> way. [Love] is <u>not irritable</u>, and [love] <u>keeps no record</u> of being wronged." 1 Cor. 13:5 (NLT)

4 MARKS OF REAL LOVE

LOVE IS NOT RUDE. So ...

1. BE _____, NOT JUST _____

"Listen before you answer. If you don't, you are being stupid and insulting." Proverbs 18:13 (GNT)

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:29, 30 (NIV)

"The wise are known for their understanding, and <u>pleasant words are persuasive</u>." Proverbs 16:21 (NLT)

LOVE DOES NOT DEMAND ITS OWN WAY. So ...

2. BE _____, NOT _____

"Your attitude should be the same that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, <u>he did not demand</u> <u>and cling to his rights</u> as God. He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form." Philippians 2:5-7 (NLT) "[Tell believers] to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle to everyone." Titus 3:2 (NIV)

"A man's wisdom gives him patience. It is his glory to overlook an offense." Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)

LOVE IS NOT IRRITABLE. So ...

3. BE _____, NOT _____

"My friends, if someone is caught in any kind of wrongdoing, those of you who are spiritual should set him right; but you must do it in a gentle way. And keep an eye on yourselves, so that you will not be tempted, too." Galatians 6:1 (GNT)

"Each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Therefore, let us stop passing judgment on each other." Romans 14:12-13a (NIV)

"Gentle words bring life and health; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit." Proverbs 15:4 (NLT)

"If your boss is angry with you, don't quit! A quiet spirit can overcome even great mistakes." Ecclesiastes 0:4 (NLT)

LOVE KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS. So ...

4. DON'T _____ IT, _____ WITH IT,

"But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too." Mark 11:25 (NLT)

"Hate stirs up trouble, but <u>love forgives all</u> <u>offenses</u>." Proverbs 10:12 (GNT)

"A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offence." Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)

"Let go of anger, and leave rage behind. Do not be preoccupied. It only leads to evil." Psalm 37:8 (GW)