

What is True Love?

by Neal Breeding

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Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8 (NIV)

Ideas for performance: This sketch could be performed as a monologue (by taking out the dialogue between characters) or with two people, as it is written. Emphasize the words in italic.

Man: Love... we all want to be loved... and we all want to love someone. But what is love? What is *true* love?

Woman: The Bible tells us in 1 Corinthians 13 what true love is and how true love should act. Ask yourself if the person you are dating meets these characteristics. Then ask yourself if *you* meet these characteristics.

Man: Let us demonstrate what we mean. If (woman's name) and I were dating, we would see if the other person met these characteristics:

Woman: (man's name) is patient,

Man: Sure, I don't mind going to *one* (not sarcastically) more store before we leave the mall. (pause) (woman's name) is kind. she does not envy,

Woman: No, It doesn't bother me that you can't afford to take me to Red Lobster like George is taking Emily. Burger King is fine.

Woman: He does not boast, he is not proud. He is not rude, he is not self-seeking.

Man: Well I really need to study for Friday's English test, but if you don't understand your Algebra, I'm sure I can make some time to help you. (pause) She is not easily angered, she keeps no record of wrongs.

Woman: Your mom has to work late again? (pause) That's ok, I know you have to baby-sit your little brother. Maybe we can go out tomorrow night instead.

Man: (woman's name) does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth.

Woman: He always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Both: (Each other's name) never fails.

Man: This definition of Love is the *ideal* love. Realistically, we are human and we are going to fail.

Woman: We should, however, strive to show this kind of love to others and seek someone who is doing the same. If we concentrating on *being* the right person instead of *looking* for the right person, God will take care of the rest!

Man: God, however, *is* perfect and shows us what perfect love is, because:

Woman: God is patient, God is kind. He does not envy,

Man: He does not boast, He is not proud. God is not rude,

Woman: He is not self-seeking, He is not easily angered, He keeps no record of wrongs.

Man: God does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. He always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Both: God *never* fails. *(pause)*

Woman: So we ask you to think about who you love?

Man: Who loves you?

Woman: And is there love, *(points at man)*

Man: your love, *(points at woman)*

Both: God's Love? *(both point up)*

(actors freeze for 2 seconds, then exit stage)