

**“Standing the Tests of Togetherness: Love Endures All Things”****KEY TEXT: I Corinthians 13:7****READY:**

1. What has challenged you most in this series on love? (Putting up with, Believing, Hoping, Enduring)
2. Give an example from your life where endurance was needed because your faith was being challenged.

**SET & GO**

**Primary Text:** 1 Corinthians 13:7

**Supporting Texts:** Romans 12:9-13; Hebrews 10:32-36

- Set** I Cor. 13:7 and Rom. 12:12 are parallel passages. In Romans, Paul says, "enduring in tribulation." How does this help us understand clarify what he means by "endure all things" in I Cor. 13:7? What are tribulations?
- Go** Is this understanding of endurance different than what you had previously thought? If so, how is it different?
- Set** Look at Hebrews 10:32-36. What kinds of tribulations were these believers experiencing? (v. 33-34)
- Go** What kinds of tribulations are we likely to experience because of the gospel?
- Set** How did they help each other in these struggles? (v. 33-34)
- Go** How would we help each other in these struggles? Be as specific as possible.
- Set** Of what promises does the author remind the Hebrew church (v. 34-36)? Why would remembering these things help them to endure persecution?
- Go** Why would remembering these promises help us to endure persecution?
- Go** The Gospel life is never disconnected from other believers, nor is it to be self-focused. How does my presence or absence affect other believers?
- Go** In this week's message, four steps for preparing for persecution were given:
- \* Intentionally labor to grow your faith.
  - \* Get vitally connected to your local church.
  - \* Learn to encourage and support the hurting.
  - \* Learn dependence and devotion through prayer
- With which of these will you struggle most? How could others help you?

**FINISH (on your own):**

1. When am I most tempted to hide my faith?
2. Do I really believe my presence or absence affects my fellow believers?
3. In what ways have I conformed to the world that I need to confess to God?
4. How will I... a) ...labor to increase my faith? b) ...deepen my connection to my church? c)...encourage others? d)...strengthen my devotion to prayer?