

Paraphrasing the Love Chapter

This activity gives young people the opportunity to put some of their own thoughts into the Christian Testament's chapter on love—1 Corinthians, chapter 13. By doing an exercise such as this with this or any portion of the Scriptures, young people are forced to think through the meaning and application of the passage. Distribute copies of a passage such as the following. Omit key words or phrases but keep the basic idea. Ask the young people to fill in the blanks

with whatever they think fits best. Afterward, compare their versions with the original message. Let each person read her or his version to the entire group.

Fill in the blanks as you see fit in this passage from 1 Corinthians, chapter 13.

If I have all the ability to talk about _____, but have no love, then I am nothing but a big mouth. If I have all the power to _____, but have no love, then my life is a waste of time. If I understand everything about _____, but have no love, then I might as well sit in a gutter. If I give away everything that I have, but have no love, then _____. Love is patient, love is kind, love is _____. Love never _____.