****

**“The Secrets of Lasting Love”**

***1 Corinthians 13:7***

**Harold Ekkert**

**Coast Hills Community Church**

**November 1, 2015**

*“I will show you my love forever. So says the Lord who saves you.”* **Isaiah 54:8 (TEV)**

*“I command you to love each other in the same way that I love you.”* **John 15:12 (NLT)**

*“Love never stops being patient, never stops believing, never stops hoping, never gives up.”* **1 Cor. 13:7 (GW)**

**1. LASTING LOVE *EXTENDS GRACE***

*“Love never stops being patient”* **1 Cor. 13:7a (GW)**

*“...puts up with anything” (MSG) “...bears all things” (ESV)  
“... patiently accepts all things” (NCV) “...is always ready to make allowances” (NJB)*

*“Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.”* **Eph. 4:2 (NLT)**

**2. LASTING LOVE *EXPRESSES FAITH***

*“Love never stops believing”* **1 Cor. 13:7b (GW)**

*“...always trusts” (NIV) “... never loses faith” (NLT) “... believes all things” (ESV)*

*The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”* **Gal. 5:6 (NIV)**

**3. LASTING LOVE *EXPECTS THE BEST***

*“Love never stops hoping”* **1 Cor. 13:7c (GW)**

*“...always expects the best” (LB) “...always looks for the best” (MSG) “... hopes all things” (ESV)*

**4. LASTING LOVE *ENDURES THE WORST***

*“Love never gives up”* **1 Cor. 13:7d (GW)**

*“...endures through every circumstance” (NLT) “...always perseveres” (NIV)  
“...never looks back, but keeps going to the end” (MSG) “... endures all things” (ESV)*