



"Triumphant In Christ, Victorious In Life"

Sermon Series: "Love – Leadership – Life"

Sermon Handout Notes: "LOVE - The Greatest Thing In the World – Part 1" – 2/4/2018

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1 - 13 (NKJV)

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH LIFE?

- 4 Greek Words for Love:
 - 1) **Eros** = means "love, mostly of sexual or romantic passion."
 - 2) **Philia** = means "affectionate regard, friendship," usually between equals.
 - 3) **Storge** = means "love, affection" and "especially of parents and children."
 - 4) **Agape** = means "love: esp. charity; the love of God for man and of man for God." The unconditional, unfailing and unlimited Love of God!
- **Scriptural Descriptions of the Love of God (Agape):**
- **Read 1 John 3:11 – 23**
 - We take from these verses that The Love of God is _____ and not _____ Love – which is _____.
- **Read 1 John 4:7 – 12**
 - We learn from these verses that the Love of God is a _____ and not a **FEELING**.
 - We choose to LOVE and we choose to FORGIVE. (Ex: Walking in Forgiveness)
- **Read John 13:34 – 35 (NKJV)**
- Friends, Jesus Christ our Lord said that people would know that we are His disciples by observing our love for one another, He wasn't merely talking about our love for those who love us. **Read John 15:9 – 13, 17 (NKJV)**
- We learn three more important aspects of the Love of God:
 - LOVE is _____. It is the intense, eager yearning to do good.
 - LOVE is a _____. It is the commitment to meet the needs of another without asking or expecting anything in return.
 - Love can also be described as an your unconditional commitment to an imperfect person.
 - Your commitment is contributing to their *benefit* and *blessing* and not to their *downfall* or *demise*. (Ref **Romans 13:8 – 10**)
 - LOVE is _____. It is anticipating the needs of another and meeting them.

UNPACKING THE PRACTICES OF LOVE

- **Read 1 Corinthians 13:1 - 7**
- The color and creativity of the Holy Spirit working through Paul, takes great care in presenting an accurate description of _____, summing it up painting a picture of each of love's fifteen distinctive characteristics. These qualities are what separate godly love from the many counterfeit images easily seen in our fallen world.
 - 🍏 (1) _____ 🍏 (2) Not easily provoked
 - 🍏 (3) Kindness 🍏 (4) Thinks no evil

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 🍏 (5) Envy | 🍏 (6) Does not delight in evil |
| 🍏 (7) Boasting | 🍏 (8) Rejoices in the truth |
| 🍏 (9) Pride | 🍏 (10) Bears all things |
| 🍏 (11) Rudeness | 🍏 (12) Believes all things |
| 🍏 (13) Self-seeking | 🍏 (14) Hopes all things |
| 🍏 (15) Endures all things | |

LOVE: HELPING YOU CONTROL YOUR THERMOSTAT

1 Corinthians 13:4 (NKJV) – “Love suffers long...”

- Longsuffering is strategically placed at the beginning of this list of love’s fifteen characteristics to assist us ***deal lovingly with differences***.
 - Differences in Class, Color, Country, Culture and passionate _____
 - In the first two verses of this chapter we see Paul, by the Holy Spirit, directly and intentionally address four distinct CAUSES (PASSIONS) that can cause conflict and division in the Church if LOVE (The Love of God) is not the primary motivation behind their passions and their cause.
 - **Four (4) Distinct Tendencies** that become passions and causes within people’s lives. People tend to be:
 - (1) Prayer Driven: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and angels...”
 - (2) Spiritual Gifts Driven: “Though I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge.”
 - (3) Faith Driven: “Though I have all faith, that I could remove mountains...”
 - (4) Activism Driven: “Though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned...”
- **LOVE, BY DEFINITION, _____ LONG. IT IS WILLING TO ENDURE CHEERFULLY AND PATIENTLY.**
- The concept of longsuffering comes from two Greek words that mean *EVEN TEMPERATURE*. These words refer to something that takes a long time to boil and they form the foundation for our word _____. Essentially, when you’re longsuffering, you’re able to keep you cool even when the heat is on. You’re not hotheaded and you don’t quickly reach your boiling point.
- **ALLOWING LONGSUFFERING TO DEVELOP AND GROW IN YOU AND THROUGH YOU TO OTHERS KEEPS YOU FROM BOILING OVER AND BLOWING UP QUICKLY OR GOING INTO AN EMOTIONAL DEEP FREEZE.**
- _____ is a critical component in dealing with the everyday practical matters of living with others and loving others.

NOTES:
