

“Living Out the Priority of Love” 7/08/18

1 Corinthians 13:5d – 14:1

Sermon Series- “What Love Looks Like- An Exposition of 1 Corinthians 13”

Big Idea- God has loved us with a passionate sacrificial love and we are to do the same towards Him and others by making this love THE priority in our way of life.

Agape (noun) - rarely used in Classical Greek and OT. A love which takes affectionate delight in its object and seeks to serve others sacrificially to their benefit or edification regardless of their worth or value (cf. John 15:13; 1 Corinthians 8:1b; 13:3; Zephaniah 3:17; Isaiah 62:5).

LESSON 1- Living out the priority of Love requires knowing its PECULIARITIES

- A. The love we are to exemplify does not hold a GRUDGE
(Hebrews 8:12; Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60; Love is generous in forgetfulness)
- B. The love we are to exemplify does not rejoice in UNRIGHTEOUSNESS
(Rom 12:9; Ps 97:10; Pr 24:17; media, gossip, newscasts)
- C. The love we are to exemplify rejoices in TRUTH
(3 John 3; 2 Thess 2:10; 2 Tim 2:15; James 1:18)
- D. The love we are to exemplify never GIVES UP
(“puts up with difficulties”; “protects” NIV)
- E. The love we are to exemplify always gives the BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT
(Rom 8:28; Phil 1:6; not cynical but believes in God’s power to change)
- F. The love we are to exemplify is always HOPEFUL
(confidently optimistic; doesn’t despair; doesn’t walk away in frustration)
- G. The love we are to exemplify is actively TENACIOUS
(2 Tim 2:8-10; doesn’t get burned out; persists in tough circumstances)
- H. The love we are exemplify never DIES
(never fails, defeated, gives in, gives up, it does not fall; Songs 8:7)

LESSON 2- Living out the priority of Love requires knowing its PERMANENCE

- A. The permanence of love inspires us to behave MATURELY
(13:8b-13; Numbers 12:8; 1 Corinthians 3:1; infants in Christ)

LESSON 3- Living out the priority of Love requires knowing its PURSUIT

- A. The pursuit of love above spiritual gifts is our CALLING
(Matt 22:37-40; James 2:8; Galatians 5:14; Col 3:12-14; 2 Pet 1:5-7)

“Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire this love (make it your aim, your greatest quest)” 1 Corinthians 14:1 (Amplified Bible)

Going Deeper *God desires us to put aside immaturity and put LOVE as a priority!*

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” (1 John 4:11)

Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples