



“THE GIFTS”

Text Corinthians 13:8-13

Chapter 12,13,14 all deal with spiritual gifts. Chapter 12 confronts the misuse of the gifts, Chapter 14 shows how the gifts are to be used. Sandwiched between the two chapters is chapter 13 where Paul emphasizes that love is the more excellent way and it is more important way to use spiritual gifts and it is more important than spiritual gift.

Paul is going to add his final finishing touches on chapter 13 in our text today in vs 8-13. He reasons that love is superior to all the spiritual gifts. It truly is the more excellent way.

Take away for today: _____

Vs 8

This verse ties in very well with vs 7

He says it's _____ . Love " _____ " in that it always bears up, it always has faith, it always hopes, it always endures. In other words, love does not _____ ; it does not come to an _____ .

Paul contrasts this eternal never ending love that does not come to an end with what will end: 3 things

These three spiritual gifts were considered most valuable by the Corinthians. Each one of these gifts had to deal with _____ .

When will these gifts pass away, end or cease?

Questions for further reflection

What challenged your thinking or beliefs from today's teaching?

Spiritual gifts will pass away. Why do you believe love is paramount not only in this life but in the life to come? Can you point to some examples where you have shown genuine love as outlined in I Corinthians 13?

Since love is paramount in what ways do you need to change (repent) of so that you can live out the biblical command to love?

#2 Love is to be _____.

- We will only make love a priority if we are _____ after it. How do we do this?
- Begin by taking an _____ of love in our own life. Use I Corinthians 13 as a measuring stick.
- Allow God's Word to expose our _____
- _____ and lack of love and _____. (Repent means to change your _____, change your _____.)
- _____ God's Word by _____ your mind (this is part of repentance changing your thinking) and _____ out the truth of God's Word.
- Keep the _____ front and center as our _____. As we _____ on the Gospel allow it's reality to transform how we _____. The Gospel should affect every area of our lives in how we live.
- Build _____ with other believers where Gospel living _____ us to speak into others lives in love and point out where we may be _____. Confessing our faults one to another so we can pray for one another.

Vs 9-10

What does he mean by this?

Spiritual gifts are not permanent because they are _____.
_____. Spiritual gifts are partial. We know in part, and we prophesy in part. True prophecy is _____ or inaccurate; it is simply _____.
(I Peter 1:10-12, Ephesians 3:1-13, 2 Peter 3:14-16)

The text seems to indicate that that which is perfect is the _____ for which we eagerly wait. Only then will we know _____, just as we are now _____ (see vs 12)

These gifts will be _____ when our Lord comes to establish His kingdom, for then we shall see all things as they are.

To explain this idea of the imperfect passing away Paul gives us two illustrations to grasp what he is saying in vs 11,12

Vs 11

Illustration #1 _____

Three things:

Are these things helpful and needful? _____
If we see someone who is an adult still behaving like a child we'd say _____?

These amazing spiritual gifts that are a benefit to the church are for a particular period they're good and they're right in their time but there's gonna come a time where you're going to leave all of those behind because the perfect will come. You're not going to need these amazing spiritual gifts because you're going to be with God you're not going to need this anymore. You will however still need _____.

Vs 12

Illustration #2

_____ vs _____

Mirrors in that day were not glass like we have today. They were _____.

The mirrors that these people were used to looking into were _____ they gave a real image a real reflection but it wasn't _____ it wasn't like seeing someone as Paul says " _____ "

We are looking into a mirror _____. We don't fully grasp _____. We are not fully aware of the _____. We see a _____ but it's not completely clear.

"Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known." The idea is there is going to come a time when the image is _____, we're going to get to a place where all of us who know Christ will be _____. All your spiritual gifts as helpful they are, they are _____ compared to the _____.

Vs 13

He declares that love is not only better than any or all of the _____, but that it is even greater than _____. Spiritual gifts fail, while love _____. Faith, hope, and love all "abide" but the greatest is love.

Why is love greater than faith and hope? Is faith and hope not eternal? Will we not need faith and hope in eternity? _____

In eternity we will not need them anymore, because the _____. So spiritual gifts will _____, faith and hope I believe will end as well, but love will not. Why will love never end and why is it the greatest?

_____. God exemplifies and shows us _____. This is why love is the greatest.

Two main points

#1 Love is to be a _____

- **The entire teaching of the Old Testament and Jesus can be summed up by one word- " _____ "- Matthew 22:33-40, Romans 13:8-110**
- **The _____ of our Lord to His disciples repeatedly spoke of the importance of _____. John 13:34-35, John 15:12-13, John 15:17**
- **Love was the _____. I Timothy 1:5**
- **Love is a dominant theme in Peter's epistles and in John's. Peter refers to love as the _____ and Paul speaks of it as the basis for _____. I Peter 1:22-23, I John 4:7-11, 2 Peter 1:5-7, Ephesians 4:1-3, Ephesians 4:14-16**
- **Love is so _____. Revelation 2:1-5**