

Sermon Notes



1 Corinthians 13

Big Idea: Maturing in love is the key to unity

	Unity	Variety	Maturity
1 Corinthians	12:1-13	12:14-31	13:1-13
Romans	12:1-5	12:6-8	12:9-21
Ephesians	4:1-6	4:7-12	4:13-16

1. Love is better

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned,[a] but have not love, I gain nothing.

2. Love is this

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;[b] 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 John 4:8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

3. Love is permanent

1 Corinthians 13:8-13

8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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Study Guide



1 Corinthians 13

Big Idea: Maturing in love is the key to unity

Have you ever been hurt by the community around you? Have you felt offended or wounded by the people in church or in your household? How do we deal with the friction and pain that is caused by a good community? Consider what 1 Corinthians 13 describes as a "more excellent way" to help keep us unified.

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you define what Love is?
2. How would you describe your love for those around you?
3. How have you been offended by people you care about/ are in your community?
4. What are indicators that show you are growing in love?
5. What are some ways this week you could mature in love?
6. Share some practical tips for loving others when they have hurt you or the situation feels tense?