



1 Corinthians 13 “The Most Excellent Way”

Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

1 Corinthians 13 is a familiar passage and is often used in wedding ceremonies to define love. However, God wants to communicate to us a message that is more encouraging and more convicting. The kind of love Paul describes in this passage ought not be restricted to a definition, instead it truly is the most excellent way to live our lives together, before God, in community.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. Why should this passage be viewed as more of a grid or lens, as opposed to a mere definition? How does this grid of understanding affect the way you love?
2. In what ways have you valued giftedness over the fruit of the Spirit? How have you seen giftedness valued above the fruit of the Spirit in our culture? What does our exaltation of giftedness reveal about our hearts? How is this contrary to the gospel message we see throughout the Scriptures?
3. Who in scripture is the best representation of loving in the way described in the text? Work through the text reminding each other how Christ loved in this way. How does the perfect love of Jesus perfect give you the ability and motivation to love as he has loved?
4. Love is not simply measured by our actions or gifts, but finds its source in the love we have experienced from God. What might need to change in your life for the overflow to happen? For which sins do you need to repent? What steps do you need to take to experience more of God in your life?
5. How can you praise God for His enduring love? Use 1st Corinthians 13 to guide your prayer. Thank God for His love shown to sinners and the love he shared with sinners. Ask God to make this love more real in your life and to help you daily walk in love.