

the love-driven life

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

A life that truly counts can only be shaped by the power of the Holy Spirit. To some extent, we can make a difference on our own. But is it the difference that God desires? In 1 Corinthians 12:31, Paul encourages the Corinthian church to seek the “greater gifts” of the Holy Spirit. He is imploring all believers to embrace a “still more excellent” way, one that compels us to utilize our gifts – our time, treasure, and energy – to uplift others driven by LOVE. Without love as the guiding force of our lives, our existence lacks purpose. The Holy Spirit must be the One steering our course. This love, agape, emanates from the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

aware: without love, I am zero! (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

The Lord will bring His good work to completion within you. Therefore, practice patience with yourself and others. Trust in the Lord as you learn to lead a Love-Driven Life. Paul emphasizes that regardless of our linguistic prowess, even if we could speak in the tongues of angels, without love, our words are meaningless (v.1). Words can be used to manipulate and deceive (John 12:4-6). Even if we possess the wisdom of Solomon or the gifts of Daniel, if we use our talents to impress rather than to express God's message, it amounts to nothing (v.2).

As Dwight L. Moody wisely stated, “The world does not understand theology or dogma, but it understands love.” Our identity as Jesus' disciples is revealed through our love for one another (John 13:34-35). When we fail to love, we deny the world the opportunity to witness Jesus “in the flesh.” As John Wesley questioned, “Though we may not think alike, can we not love alike?” Indeed, we should! The Bible advocates generosity, but even if we give all to the poor without love, it holds no value (v.3). Some give not to reveal God's love but to boost their own self-esteem. Instead, we must give cheerfully and wholeheartedly to the Lord (2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

asking: is my love the real thing? (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

We must assess if our love aligns with God's Word (vv. 4-7). Even embodying just two aspects of the fruit of the Spirit – patience and kindness – can be challenging. Without the

Holy Spirit, genuine love is beyond our reach (Ephesians 4:2, 32). Envy over others' blessings, as seen in Saul's attitude toward David, has no place in love (1 Samuel 18:8-9). Some people incessantly talk about themselves, but genuine love does not boast or inflate one's importance. Love behaves with humility, exemplified by Jesus' gentle response to vulnerable individuals like the woman who touched His robe (Mark 5:25-28, 32-34).

Are you always insistent on having your way? Are you easily provoked? A temper problem might alienate your loved ones (Proverbs 22:24-25). Holding grudges contradicts love; we have no right to keep a record of others' wrongs when Jesus has forgiven our sins (Colossians 2:13-14). Love does not rejoice in evil; actions contrary to God's will, like premarital intimacy, are not love. Instead, love rejoices in truth, even if painful truths come from those who know us best (1 Peter 4:8). Love believes and hopes, seeing the best in others and trusting in God's love, grace, and promises, especially in our challenging world. Love endures all things, persisting despite failures, disappointments, and opposition.

assured: God's love will complete me (1 Corinthians 13:8-13)

In 1 Corinthians 13:8-13, the term “the perfect” refers to the ultimate fulfillment of God's plan, which will be realized in the glorious presence of Jesus Christ. This passage assures believers that even the most extraordinary spiritual gifts they possess will eventually fade away. When we see Jesus face to face, we will be transformed to be like Him. In this state of perfection, our faith - which sustained us through life's trials and uncertainties; and our hope - which inspired us to anticipate God's promises - will find their ultimate fulfillment. In the radiant presence of Jesus, these elements of faith and hope will merge into an eternal reality.

As followers of Christ, it is our calling to consistently remember and share the boundless love of God for humanity, a love so great that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to redeem us (John 3:16). Sharing this love becomes our mission, a testament to the enduring and transformative power of God's eternal love for all through Jesus Christ.

last week's memory verse

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three;
but the greatest of these is love

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

discuss this message

What “good” things do you do which you now realize
you do not always do out of love?

In which aspects of biblical love do you most need to
improve? What will you do about these?

To whom can you show God's love this week?
When and how will you do it?

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WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN


Forgiven, so, Forgive! Forgive... Myself?: Why and How to Forgive Yourself

with Claire de Vera

November 9, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women



 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry


BIG MINISTRY SINGLES

Linkedin Jesus: Understanding Discipleship and Its Importance

November 10, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  B1GMinistry

 beonewithgod



NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD


United in Jesus: Living Out the Lessons on 1 Corinthians

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12

 zoom for ages 7-12

Dear guests, it is with thanksgiving that we welcome you.

Come by our
Welcome Center
and let's chat over coffee.

learn more about our faith

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

Join a GLC Training!

**GLC Level 2 — Face-to-Face
[OPEN TO ALL]**

**November 5, 2023, Sunday
at 1:00 PM, Room 3A**

Book 7: Family Life

GLC Level 2 — Zoom [OPEN TO ALL]

November 9, 2023, Thursday at 7:30 PM

Book 7: Family Life

Go to bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023
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New in church? Do you have questions
about CCF? OR are you seeking to
know God more and want to grow in
your faith?

LET's CONNECT!

November 5, 2023, Sunday

at 2:00 PM, Room 2A

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR
VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING
HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a
meaningful life with Him in the
present and gain eternal life with
Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God,
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps**
His covenant and His lovingkindness to
a thousandth generation with those who
love Him and keep His commandments
— Deuteronomy 7:9*

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin
separates us from Him.

*Everyone has sinned and is far away
from God's saving presence.
— Romans 3:23*

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only
way for us to be reconciled to
Him: through His son, Jesus
Christ. Jesus had to die on the
cross for our sins and be raised
to life for eternity.

*But God demonstrates His own love
toward us, in that while we were yet
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more
then, having now been justified by
His blood, we shall be saved from the
wrath of God through Him.
— Romans 5:8*

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father but through
Me. — John 14:6*

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus
Christ, we are forgiven of our sins
and saved from eternal death.

*For God so loved the world, that He
gave His only begotten Son, that
whoever believes in Him shall not
perish, but have eternal life. — John 3:16*

*For by grace you have been saved
through faith; and that not of
yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as
a result of works, so that no one may
boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9*

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have
eternal life when you trust in
Jesus.

*And the testimony is this, that God has
given us eternal life, and this life is in His
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he
who does not have the Son of God does
not have the life. These things I have
written to you who believe in the name
of the Son of God, so that you may know
that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13*

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NIGHT SERVICE**


5:00 PM


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ENGLISH**


9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

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