

build up one another

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

One of the greatest obstacles to leading a fulfilling life is self-centeredness. The more we prioritize self-love, the more difficult it is to extend genuine love to others. While it is not inherently wrong to love ourselves, the most profound way to do so is by embracing the love of Christ.

Self-centeredness stands in stark contrast to the teachings of Christ. The Bible commands us to support and uplift one another, helping each other grow in character and love, just like Jesus. Our best selves emerge when we reflect Christ's character, and our love for others is at its best when we love like Jesus. To build up one another, it is essential to apply the following lessons from 1 Corinthians 14.

develop the right desire (1 Corinthians 14:1-19)

Understanding the significance of building each other up is common knowledge, yet the real challenge lies not in our awareness but in our willingness to put this knowledge into action. One significant issue faced by the Corinthian church was the misuse of spiritual gifts for selfish purposes rather than to edify others. Paul emphasized that love should be the driving force behind their service, encouraging them to seek spiritual gifts from God, who is the ultimate source (v.1). He specifically highlighted the gift of prophecy, comparing it to speaking in tongues (vv.2-3).

PROPHECY involves speaking God's words, as empowered by the Holy Spirit, for the purpose of uplifting others. This can include preaching, praying, encouraging, rebuking, sharing the good news, and conveying God's vision. It is crucial to test and examine prophecies to ensure they align with God's teachings (Deuteronomy 18:22; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21; 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

SPEAKING IN TONGUES is a spiritual language given by the Holy Spirit and serves two potential purposes: personal edification (v.4) and, when interpreted, edification of others (v.5). Paul urged them to prioritize understanding in worship to avoid confusion. It was vital that someone interpreted the message to bless others and prevent misunderstandings (vv.11-13).

A person whose heart is aligned with God will utilize their God-given gifts to bless and serve others, demonstrating genuine love. Cultivating love for others starts with deepening our love for God, which compels us to uplift one another. Engaging in fellowship with fellow believers

enables understanding of their needs, fostering a supportive and caring community.

do it the right way (1 Corinthians 14:20-40)

Paul emphasizes the importance of using spiritual gifts in a manner that aligns with God's intention and glorifies Him. Drawing parallels from the Old Testament, Paul reminds the Corinthians of God's preference for orderly worship, as seen in Leviticus 9:22-23, and the severe consequences faced by Aaron's sons for their disorderly worship (Leviticus 10:1-2). This illustrates the sacredness of God's expectations.

Paul addresses the issue of immaturity in believers, highlighting their tendency towards selfishness (v.20). He urges them not to serve as children do, solely focused on their own desires, but to recognize that their actions should be centered around Jesus and the unity of the body of Christ. Drawing from the example of the Israelites, Paul points out their failure to heed the warnings of prophets, leading to God's judgment through the Assyrian empire (Isaiah 28:11-12). He challenges the Corinthians to learn from the Israelites' mistakes, emphasizing the importance of using spiritual gifts, including tongues and prophecy, in a way that edifies the believers and convicts unbelievers (vv.21-25).

Paul further explains that all aspects of worship, not just speaking in tongues, should be conducted in an orderly and edifying manner (v.26). He provides specific guidelines in verses 31-33, saying that God is a God of order, protecting believers from the misuse of prophecy. Paul asserts the divine origin of his instructions (vv.37-38) and tells the Corinthians not to forbid speaking in tongues if it leads to personal edification (vv.39-40). Ultimately, he stresses the importance of conducting all activities in the church with propriety and order, that when believers uplift one another, they bring glory to God.

We are equipped with everything we need to serve God (2 Peter 1:2-3). How can we withhold our love and service from others when the God of the universe served and sacrificed His life for our salvation? Jesus, the Son of God, willingly died on the cross to atone for our sins, granting us eternal life through faith in Him. His boundless love should inspire and drive us to build up one another, just as He did for us.

last week's memory verse

So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:12

discuss this message

Are you aware of your spiritual gifts? How are you using them?

What are the possible reasons why we do not use our spiritual gifts to build other people up?

What are the reasons why we should use our spiritual gifts to build other people up?

How can you use your God-given gifts to serve your family, your Dgroup, or the church?

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

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

step into the community

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

Dare to Be Different: Looking through the Eyes of Faith with Praying Wife Forum

November 16, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ccfwomen2women
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

BIG MINISTRY SINGLES

B1G Thanksgiving

December 7, Thursday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  B1GMinistry
 beonewithgod

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Gratitude Express: Take the Journey to Thankfulness

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

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 12, 2023, Sunday
at 1:00 PM, Room 3A

Book 7: Family Life

GLC Level 2 — Zoom [OPEN TO ALL]

November 16, 2023, Thursday at 7:30 PM
Survey of the Bible (Session 1 of 4)

Go to bit.ly/Book7FamilyLife2023
to register

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GLC trainings and available resources,
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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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5:00 PM

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