

## WHEN LOVE IS HARD: **DON'T GIVE UP. KEEP LOVE ALIVE!**

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

God's heart is for us to be united by love. But when love is hard, how do we keep on loving? Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:1-3 to "walk in a manner worthy of the calling", having tolerance for one another in love. In the same way, Jesus' command in John 13:34-35 to love one another is not about feelings: it is an intentional act of considering others as more important and a conscious decision to pursue love even when it's difficult, so that we will be known as Christ's disciples. How do we do this?

### PURSUE BUILDING UP

In Romans 14:19-21, Paul continues the instruction to love by building others up rather than making them stumble. We are to give our full energy to build others up by being conscious about their needs, allowing them to grow in their faith and not forcing our own way. We should not impose on others our own convictions, beliefs and things we feel strongly about that we developed over the years of walking with the Lord. In 1 Corinthians 8:1,4, 7-13, Paul reminded the Corinthians about the importance of knowledge and its dangers of making someone proud. True spirituality is becoming more like Jesus, loving and caring for others more. If we are truly mature Christians, we would limit our liberty for the sake of those who are young in the faith. In 1 Corinthians 10:28-29, Paul reinforces that for conscience's sake, we are to be more willing to build up others. Strong believers must be able to love those weaker in the faith — to love others from a pure heart, a pure conscience, and sincere faith (1 Timothy 1:5-6,19).

### PRIORITIZE OTHERS

Romans 15:1-3 reminds us to prioritize others. Paul is addressing those who are strong in the faith to help the new or weak believers. In Galatians 6:1-2 we are taught to bear one another's burdens, to help others rather than canceling or judging them. To prioritize others is to be patient, listen, understand, and help others be restored. We love others when we genuinely aim for their good and edification. Paul points us to the example of Christ who gave up His own pleasure and instead prioritized the needs of those He came to die for. Philippians 2:1-5 reminds us to follow in the footsteps of Christ, not doing anything from selfishness or pride, but considering others with humility of mind as more important than ourselves. We need to have the attitude of Christ and seek to become more and more like Him every day of our life.

### POWERED BY GOD

The Christian life is a supernatural life. We need the power of Christ in us when love does not come easy. Paul in Romans 15:4-6 points out that perseverance, encouragement, and hope come from the Word of God. We don't get it out of people – we get it from God. Being powered by God, His love, and His example through Christ in the flesh enables us to be in one accord and enjoy a harmonious relationship with others through Christ alone. In Romans 15:13, Paul adds the importance of HOPE which we gain by the power of the Holy Spirit, which gives us strength and confidence in the certainty of God's promises.

Having our hope and security in God alone gives us joy and peace. He empowers us to live a blameless life (Acts 24:15-16) as we abide in His word and submit to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Colossians 1:17 clearly tells us where this hope comes from – CHRIST IN US, the hope of glory! This hope enables us to not give up when loving others is hard and to keep love alive!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

When love is hard, what do you do?  
How do you build up others?  
How can we be empowered to love others more?

### LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good,  
to his edification  
ROMANS 15:2

Download this Chronicle  
online!

[ccf.org.ph/chronicle/](http://ccf.org.ph/chronicle/)

Download *this Sunday's* 4Ws Small Groups  
Guide and 4Ws Go Viral Edition *every Monday!*

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](http://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)

step into the



# COMMUNITY!

Fellowship and learn together with believers at the same life stage as you!

## Women2Women

ALL WOMEN

### ON BREAK AND WILL RESUME FEBRUARY 2023.

 ccfwomen2women  
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry




## B1G Ministry

SINGLES

### CHRISTMAS PARTY AND THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

December 9, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  B1GMinistry  
 beonewithgod

## Elevate



HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

### CLASS MEET

#### REAL PEOPLE, REAL STORIES

December 10, Saturday, 3:00 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

 ElevateMain  
 ElevateMainTV

## NXTGEN



KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

### KIDS' CHURCH

#### BIBLE TRUTHS EXPLAINED: JESUS IS OUR SABBATH




Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM  
G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfnxtgen for ages 4-12  
zoom for ages 7-12

### JOIN AN ONLINE SMALL GROUP FOR KIDS!

Contact the NXTGEN team:

   ccfnxtgen

# LEARN MORE

about the faith!

Grow deeper in your spiritual walk and join Bible study classes by GLC.

### JOIN GLC'S LAST FEW TRAINING SESSIONS BEFORE THE YEAR ENDS!

#### GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face

Sundays at 1:00 PM

- Book 1: One by One, Room 3A
- Book 4: CCF DNA, Room 2A

#### GLC Level 1 — Zoom Cycle 3

December 7, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

- Book 1: One by One
- Book 4: CCF DNA

#### GLC Level 2 — Zoom Cycle

Book 6: Basic Doctrines

Session 5: The Trinity

December 7, Thursday, 7:30 PM

#### GLC Level 3 Lead — Zoom Cycle

Discipline and Restoration,

Sessions 1 and 2

December 7, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Go to [bit.ly/GLCTraining2022](https://bit.ly/GLCTraining2022) to register

## SAVE THE DATES

Don't miss our upcoming church events!

### Christmas Services

December 25, Sunday

### New Year Services

January 1, 2023, Sunday

### Prayer and Fasting Week

January 9-14, 2023

### Intentional Discipleship Conference

January 26-28, 2023



### EARLY BIRD RATES END DECEMBER 31!

Get your tickets now!  
Drop by the G/F lobby booth

Avail of the discounted rate when you register for your **CCF Commitment Card!**

register at the 2/F lobby booth or at [smallgroups.ccf.org.ph](https://smallgroups.ccf.org.ph)

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*



## JOIN US ON SUNDAYS

AT CCF CENTER  
10:00 AM (English),  
3:00 PM (Filipino)

### ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM  
 [ccf.org.ph](https://ccf.org.ph)  [ccfmain](https://ccfmain)  [ccfmainTV](https://ccfmainTV)

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