



Well Check wk6: Love is Greater

Introduction: The words of 1 Corinthians 13 may be the most repeated words in scripture. While they have become the text for many weddings, most don't realize that the chapter is part of a discussion on Spiritual Gifts. What if we sought love as the greatest spiritual gift?

Discussion Questions

1. The use of the word "love" is so common that it almost loses its meaning. What are some things that you've said you love or have heard people say that they loved?
2. Read **1 Corinthians 13:1-3** How does what he says here tie into the discussion about spiritual gifts? We sometimes talk about "moral failings" but seldom do we relate that failure to a "lack of love." Why does Paul elevate love over these other esteemed gifts/practices?
3. Read **1 Corinthians 13:4-7** There are 15 attributes/characteristics of love mentioned in these 4 verses. Seven saying what it is, eight saying what it isn't. Are there any surprises in that listing? How do these descriptions help us when the word love is so common today?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 13:8-13** Why does Paul see love as the preeminent spiritual gift? How will the other spiritual gifts become unnecessary or cease? Some believe that these gifts went away with the death of the apostles or the finishing of the New Testament. When does Paul teach that they end?
5. In the sermon, Jeremy mentioned a "castigating spirit," which is this drive to put someone "in their place" verbally. What is our responsibility to love or to others when we engage in debate or disagreements? Can you be right and absolutely wrong at the same time?
6. How can seeing love as a spiritual gift instead of purely an emotion shape the way we think about our own spiritual growth?

Shaping Your Mind –*Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love. 1 Cor. 13:13*

Moving Forward – If you have not love, you gain nothing.