

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

We've spoken about our weaknesses and our strengths (or gifts). But when it's all said and done, how we love each other and how we love those we're going to serve is going to make all the difference.

"The most excellent way: It's all about Love"

1 Cor 13

¹ If I speak in the tongues^[a] of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,^[b] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Why do you think Paul included this section about love after he taught about the body and gifts?

Where have you experienced love like this: patient, kind, not envious...

Where do you struggle to show love to others like this?

Why is the greatest of these faith, hope and LOVE... LOVE?

"Love covers a multitude of sins"

1 Peter 4:8

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Why do you think Love covers a multitude of sins?

What keeps you from sharing that love with others?

What do you need to do differently to love in a way that God may be praised?

Where do you need help to show God's love?

“Love God love People”

Matthew 24:34

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’^[c] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[d] ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

*What do you think is the significance of the order of love God and love people?
In your own words what does it mean to love God with:*

- *all you heart?*
- *all your soul?*
- *all your mind?*

As we love God, we can love others better; as we love others we love God better. One way we're going to do this is in smaller groups or running partners. I've given each of you a running partner card. Use the card to guide your time as you meet with your running partners.

Trip Running Partners

Pray for your partners

Check in the night before and the morning we leave (Exchange Cell Phones #)

Watch out for each other as we travel and while in Haiti

Use the RP card to check-in with each other each day

Break into groups and pray for each other. Where do you need Love to show up in your life this week? Pray for that and consider how God might use you to show love to the other people in your group this week.