

1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

Sermon Title: "Love Never Ends"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Pastor Chris Fritz / Sunday, August 8, 2021

INTRODUCTION

"But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way." (1 Cor. 12:31)

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

"Love never ends." (1 Corinthians 13:8a)

I. THE PERMANENCE AND PREEMINENCE OF LOVE

"Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away." (1 Corinthians 13:8-10)

1) Gifts are for time; love is for _____.

WARNING: You must NOT find your identity, comfort, or security in _____ you do (in what gift you have) but in _____ you are in Christ, as a beloved child of God.

Luke 10:17-20 -

Note: Our knowledge at its best, our speech at its best is lacking and _____!

“When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.” (1 Corinthians 13:11)

2) Don’t be content with childish, immature, “baby” ways when it comes to love! _____!

“For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.” (1 Corinthians 13:12)

3) Every redeemed child of God will ultimately see, know, and _____ the glorious perfections, blessings, and benefits of God’s eternal love and grace!

1 John 3:2-3 -

Note: In glory, we will _____ know and experience the richness of God’s love and grace!

“As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love.” (John 15:9)

“So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” (1 Cor. 13:13)

Conclusion: Faith will become sight, Hope will be fully realized, and Love will _____ forever!

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. How is love “*a still more excellent way*”, more excellent than what?
2. Why will love endure while gifts pass away? Why aren’t gifts eternal?
3. How does verse 9 humble us but not discourage us?
4. What is “the perfect” that Paul refers to in verses 10 and 12?
5. What are some “childish” things in your life that God wants you to give up? What steps can you start taking today to make that happen?
6. Why is love “greater” than faith and hope?