

THE CHURCH BEAUTIFUL MESS

A STUDY ON 1 CORINTHIANS



"The Better Way of Love"

1 Corinthians 13

Pastor Jose Prado

10/21/2018



31 But desire the greater gifts. And I will show you an even better way. 1 Cor.12:31

Paul wants us to understand that there is only two ways for the Christian Community. There is **the way of self** and there is **the way of Love**. We will either live **self pursuing lives** or **love pursuing lives**.



Driving Question:

Why does love matter so much in the life of the Christian community?



1. Love is The Currency of The Christian Community

1 If I speak human or angelic tongues **but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.** 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains **but do not have love, I am nothing.** 3 And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast **but do not have love, I gain nothing.**



3 Truths about the Currency of Love

- 1. There is no righteousness outside of Love*
- 2. There is no benefit to the body outside of Love*
- 3. There is no authentic spirituality outside of Love*



“Love is that thing which, if a church has it, it doesn’t really need much else, and if it doesn’t have it, whatever else it has doesn’t really matter very much. Love is our only currency!”



2. Love is The Character of The Christian Community

4 Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, 5 is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. 6 Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.



8 Negatives

- a. Love is not Envious***
- b. Love is not Boastful***
- c. Love is not Arrogant***
- d. Love is not Rude***
- e. Love is not Self-seeking***
- f. Love is not Irritable***
- g. Love is not Resentful***
- h. Love is not Unrighteous***



7 Positives

- a. Love is Patient**
- b. Love is Kind**
- c. Love rejoices in truth**
- d. Love bears all things**
- e. Love believes all things**
- f. Love hopes all things**
- g. Love endures all things**



Love is a Person: His name is Jesus!

If all we get from these verses is **God's requirement** (LAW) that we love this way than we have missed the main point of this text. What Paul is describing for us is not just some requirement but **God's provision** (GOSPEL) of love for us in Jesus Christ.



How do we view this text in light of the Gospel?

The Gospel is not that we now have the ability to love like this but that Jesus Christ has loved us like this and as we receive, embrace and are affected by His love we begin to love each other in light of His love.



3. Love is The Consistency of The Christian Community

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.



3 Truths about the Consistency of Love

- 1. Love will never Fail**
- 2. Love will be Our Mature State**
- 3. Love is The Greatest Virtue**



Driving Question:

Why does love matter so much in the life of the Christian community?

Answer:

Love matters because love is all we have that will stand on the day of judgment. We will either be welcomed in eternity covered by the love of Jesus or we will perish along with all things never having known His love.