



Session 12: The Greatest of These Is Love

READ:

1 Corinthians 8–14; 16; 2 Corinthians 1–3; 8; 9

CONNECT: Looking Back Over the Heart of Paul's Theology

What is something new you have learned about Paul and his theology as a result of this Study at Home series?

WATCH: The Greatest of These Is Love

As you watch the video, fill in the following:

A. Gender Roles

What was the underlying issue regarding head coverings during worship?

B. Spiritual Gifts

Why did Paul insist that believers be able to listen to one another in worship services?

C. Idol food

Paul insisted that pagan worship practices did not _____ the meat. But Christians should not eat the meat if, by eating it, they added to their weaker brothers' _____.

D. Love

To say that love is an “eschatological virtue” means that love is a key element in what?

Paul hoped to remedy the Corinthians' pride in their more spectacular gifts by pointing out that all gifts are _____ and _____ if they are not exercised in love.

DISCUSS

- What is something you learned from the video?
- Dr. Reggie Kidd says, “Christian love now is our greatest participation in the blessings of the age to come.” What activities or events have allowed you to participate in Christian love?
- Speaking about the Lord’s Supper, Rev. Dan Hendley says, “We are seated at the table of the Father, partaking of the riches of his grace together as the family of God. And to do that worthily, we do it with grateful hearts, with humble hearts, with an acceptance and embrace of one another.” In a few minutes of silent reflection, choose a word, phrase, image, or object you can use to remind yourself of this perspective next time you partake of the Lord’s Supper. Share this with the group.
- Which spiritual gifts are held in highest esteem in your community? Why do you think that is?

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART: Love Expressed

- Summarize what we learn about “how to stir up one another to love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24) from the way Paul exhorted the Corinthians in the following verses:
 - 1 Corinthians 6:1-4
 - 2 Corinthians 9:1-2
 - 2 Corinthians 9:3-7
 - 2 Corinthians 9:8-11
 - 2 Corinthians 9:12-15
- Which of these principles could you use in your own life and in your sphere of influence? How?

APPLY:

- What are some situations where you need God's help to live out 1 Corinthians 10:23-24 "All things are lawful,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful,' but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor."
- Where has this study encouraged you in your faith?
- Where has it challenged you? What do you want to do as a result?