

Pastor Dan's opening comments on I Corinthians 13.

I Corinthians 13 is one of the most well-known chapters in Scripture and one often misused.

How is the chapter often misused?

Pause the video: (take 15 minutes)

- I asked you to find the lyrics of a love song from the radio or pandora or Spotify or iHeart Radio. This is the secular world. How do they define love? How is love expressed?
- Describe someone you know deeply in love.

The chapter is really about the attitude of _____.

It is very apparent that the Corinthians were _____ in worship.

We do see that the worship had an _____ to the service.

I Corinthians 13 is going to the _____ of worship.

I Corinthians 13

1. Vs. 1-3 really establish the concept of love as foundational. You'll note the various roles within the congregation that people served. This connects to chapter 12 and one's place in the body.
2. Vs. 4-7, Paul lays a foundation of what love actually looks like. He is very specific on the expression of love. I find these three particularly interesting

- _____
- _____
- _____

William Carey.....who is he? _____

It is important to understand that I Cor. 13 is an expression of Christian love. This means the secular world may not understand sacrificial love. Of course, we all love. We are

wired to love but Paul is really pointing to something profound that goes beyond loving our families.

Paul is giving a _____ that only God himself can give us.

3. Vs. 11-12, There is a call to maturity and moving beyond infancy. The walk to maturity is actually a dying to ourselves. It is in death that we come to life. This is the idea of a mirror – we will be fully known in the presence of God.

4. Three remain: _____

And the greatest is _____.

I John 4:8 says God is _____. So, everything Paul is talking about is being embraced ultimate Love, God himself. This is a great attitude for worship.

Chapter 14

Now Paul returns to some practical direction for worship. He is speaking to the management of the service. He is NOT telling them to change their liturgy (worship order).

5. Vs. 1-5, The goal of worship is to _____ the body.

He encourages prophecy (preaching) because “it is for the _____,

Encouragement and _____ of the body.” (vs. 3)

6. Vs. 6-12, 18. He continues the use of tongues in worship. Vs. 12 is a fine synopsis for any of us as we look at what we do in worship:

Vs. 12, “....try to excel in gifts that _____ the church.”

7. Vs. 22-23, Paul is pointing the Corinthians to look beyond their own needs to those outside the church. What would they think about tongues? It is something to consider in the design of our own worship services.

8. Vs. 26, Here’s the liturgy of the early church:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

The goal is always to strengthen the body.

9. Vs. 27-33. He is calling this young congregation to do worship in good order. I love vs. 33. **For God is not a God of disorder but of peace.** Disorderliness is simply out of God's design. His creation was designed to bring peace.
10. Vs. 34-35, admittedly this is a confusing text on the role of women. We know women participated in the service (check out 11:5). I'll note a couple of thoughts about the text.

For discussion:

- In our present liturgy what would lose new believers or unbelievers when they enter into our worship service?
- What is a non-negotiable in our service? Meaning, it has to be there.
- Between I Corinthians 13-14 what really caught your attention that builds up or breaks down the community?

Next Meeting:

For the next meeting, please read the last two chapters, **1 Corinthians 15-16.**