



Sermon Discussion Questions

"Remembering What Matters Most" From Exhaustion to Equilibrium

1 Corinthians 13
June 26, 2016

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Opener:

Think of a love song, new or old, that best depicts true love. What line/s in the song convince you that this particular song is the best depiction of true love?

Questions:

1. Chapter 13 begins and ends by asserting the supremacy of love. Especially in light of chapter 12, why is this love so central, and greater than faith and hope?
2. How does 1 Cor. 13:1-3 link back to chapter 12? What difference would love make in service rendered with God-given gifts?
3. In verses 4 through 7, what does Paul say that love is and isn't? You can spend some time expounding each characteristic.
4. To what or to whom could verses 8-12 refer? Further, how does this set the standard with which we love one another?

Application:

6. Looking at the chapter as a whole, how would you summarize what sets biblical, unifying, and true love apart from the love commonly depicted in our modern culture?
7. Is there someone in your life who you feel loves you with a love closely mirroring that which is depicted in 1 Corinthians 13? Which characteristic/s of love stand out the most in this person?
8. Among the different characteristics of love in verses 4-7, what could be your personal areas of improvement?
9. As a member of a small group and of the church, how can you impartially share this love to those around you, even to those with whom you're not very close? Pray for each other that God would teach you what it means to truly love one another.

*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996), *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998), and *The NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 2011).