

LEADERS

Please mark your calendars for the (optional) Meet up on Nov. 8th @ 11:00am and a mandatory SGL meeting on December 13th @ 11:00am. More info to come.

LEARN

Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13 together. What stands out in the text or from Sunday's sermon as helpful, encouraging, or challenging?

It's easy to get bogged down in various details and arguments in these verses. But what is Paul's primary goal or point in v. 8-13?

(Unlike spiritual gifts, love never ends. Love is more excellent than the gifts because gifts are temporary, the gifts' perception is limited, and the gifts are good but not greatest.)

Identifying what Paul means by the "perfect" has been notoriously controversial in church history. But what is Paul comparing it to that will pass away?

(Prophecy and knowledge will pass away, and tongues will cease. Paul's focus is on the incomplete revelatory content of the gifts. The incompleteness and obscurity that now characterizes the gifts will be done away.)

What is Paul getting at in v. 12? What is the anticipation or hope he has for the future?

(Paul is depicting the future fullness of knowledge in terms of what God himself knows. "Now and then" contrasts point to before and after the coming of Christ. He looks forward to completeness, with nothing lacking in eternity in the presence of God.)

PRACTICE

How should a church apply these verses regarding the supremacy of love compared to the limited and temporary nature of prophecy, tongues and knowledge?

(Ex: We need to faithfully uphold love as supremely important compared to demonstration of gifts. Seek to be part of a culture increasing in love, not manifesting/proving their value in their gifts.)

What are some evidences that a church is faithfully prioritizing love over the demonstration of spiritual gifts?

(Ex: The teaching will represent Paul's teaching on the matter. The greatest 2 commandments will be upheld as demonstrable proof of the Spirit's work over and above exalting gifts as that proof.)

CHANGE

How can you grow in demonstrating Godly love for others at Doxa? Is there an act of obedience you are compelled to take based on the last 2 sermons prioritizing love in your local church?

(Leaders: The hope is to see people considering the 15-fold definition of love from Oct. 4 and the permanence of love over gifts. Ex. of acts of obedience could be showing patience toward people, reacting in kindness instead of anger, forgiving sin against you, or believing the best in others instead of a cynical approach.)