

STAY *Connected* AT CCC

MIDDEL SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, APRIL 21

6th-8th graders, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the Okies' from 6:00 to 7:30. Bring your Bible and see the Weekly Update to bring a snack to share!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Following worship today, we will have a follow-up meeting to discuss the results of the recent survey, so please join us!

TWO SERVICES IN THE LARGE MEETING ROOM STARTING APRIL 28 – MAY 19

We will not have access to our sanctuary space for 4 weeks due to a local election. We will have services at 9 am and 10:30 am in the large meeting room up the ramp. We will not have childcare for the 9 am, but we will for the 10:30 am. Sunday school will continue at 9:30 am. Seating capacity will be 100. We will try it without signups, so if you don't have children that need childcare, please come to the 9 am service.

SETUP VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The setup team is in need of one volunteer to serve the first Sunday of each month. If you are interested in serving or would like more information please contact Jack Lane at jtlanejr@yahoo.com.



CHRIST COMMUNITY
CHURCH

The
**MORE
EXCELLENT**
way

1 CORINTHIANS 13

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Info@christcommunitycobb.org ♦ www.christcommunitycobb.org
Christ Community Church is a local congregation of the PCA

OUR VISION:
TO SEE THE GOSPEL CHANGE HEARTS, LIVES, AND COMMUNITY
BY MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES IN NORTHWEST ATLANTA AND BEYOND
CHANGED HEARTS, CHANGED LIVES, CHANGED COMMUNITY

OUR *Worship* CELEBRATION
April 21, 2024

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 103:1-5**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

***Song of Preparation and Praise - 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)**

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - John 15:8-11**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Song of Comfort - The Love of God**

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

**Pastoral Prayer - The Women's Extension and
Riverside Community Church, Cartersville**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - Confronting Our Lack of Love

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

***Song of Response - Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me**

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - 2 Corinthians 13:14**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

***Congregational Response: Amen!**

***Stand**

Giving boxes are located on the table inside the sanctuary by the doors and the welcome table in the lobby.

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me (cont.)

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete,
Still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
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When the race is complete,
Still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

Response
SONG OF

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love,
My deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine,
I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Savior, He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh the night has been won,
And I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

SONG OF
Response

CALL TO
Worship

- ¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
- ² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
- ³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love
and mercy,
- ⁵ who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the
eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:7-12

“CONFRONTING OUR LACK OF LOVE”

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-3

MATT O’SULLIVAN

Key Truth: God confronts us with our lack of love so He can grow our love in specific ways.

Introduction:

Q: *How can we grow in love in specific ways?*

1 Corinthians 13:1-3: Confronting Our Lack of Love

“First Corinthians 13 ought to encourage us to step back from even our most cherished projects and ask, ‘Why am I doing this?’ If we cannot honestly say, ‘I am doing this *for* love and *in* love,’ then the legitimacy of the whole enterprise must come under serious doubt. This test applies, of course, not just to explicitly religious practices but to everything that we do: business, academics, politics. All of us know of sad cases where laudable causes are promoted by people who have lost this frame of reference and turned into loveless zealots.

Indeed, this is not far from what was happening at Corinth: precisely those Corinthians who were most singlemindedly focused on spirituality had become guilty of dividing the community and despising their brothers and sisters. We are so susceptible to self-deception in such matters that we need others around us who can keep us honest and remind us, as Paul does, that love is what really counts ultimately.”

Richard B. Hays, *First Corinthians*

Q: *Where in your life do you have a specific lack of love? Who has God put in your life to help you see where you lack love?*

Application:

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 teaches us that:

- God confronts us with our lack of love so He can grow our love in specific ways.

Benediction: *2 Corinthians 13:14*

The Love of God

The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair
Bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin

When ancient time shall pass away
And earthly thrones
And kingdoms fall
When men who now refuse to pray
On rocks and hills
And mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints' and angels' song

*O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall for evermore endure
The saints' and angels' song.*

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies
Of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll
Contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

SONG OF
Comfort

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

*Bless the Lord oh my soul
Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name*

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing
Your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes
(Chorus)

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great
And Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find
(Chorus)

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years
And then forevermore
(Chorus)

SONG OF
Praise

Confession OF SIN

Gracious and Merciful Father,

We come before you to confess our sin as Your redeemed and beloved children. May Your Spirit alone convict us of our sin and remind us of our pardon in Christ through repentance.

(Take a moment to silently confess.)

We confess that we often ignore the ways we lack love because we do not believe You will grow our love in union with Christ (**1 Corinthians 13:1-3**).

We confess these things before You because You are faithful to forgive us in Christ.

Bless us with the assurance of our pardon by Your Holy Spirit in Christ alone, by faith alone, through Your grace alone, from Your Word.

Amen.

Assurance OF PARDON

⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

John 15:8-11

(Leader) - And based on the gift of this assurance of pardon to us, God's people, we all can't help but say,

(Congregation) - Amen!