

DISCUSSION GUIDE

FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, SMALL GROUPS

What to do right after the service to help “the Word dwell more richly,” within us (Colossians 3:16):

1. Instead of rushing off after the service is over, or talking about the latest news, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after church. Start spiritual conversations by asking, “How did the Scripture challenge or speak to you today?” Or “what about God in the message encouraged you?”

2. Encourage someone by sharing things you learned about God from His Word during the sermon. Make note of how your thinking has changed. Don’t let biblical teaching be a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over (James 1:22-25). Choose one or two particular applications to share

[Above from book *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church Member*]

For further Application, Meditation and Conversation on today’s text:

Date: 10/24/2021 – Christ’s Love Delivers Us from Selfishness (1 Corinthians 13:5a)

Outline:

- **Our unloving behavior**
- **Our self-seeking heart**
- **Christ's transforming love**

1. How does the love of Christ compel us to not live for ourselves (see 2 Corinthians 5:14-15)? Why is that important as we look at the first part of 1 Corinthians 13:5?

2. When Paul says love "is not rude" in v. 5, what are some other words to explain what that means? What are some ways we can easily be guilty of this with our family and friends?

3. If you're teaching children to not be rude (as a parent, teacher, or children's worker), what's the bigger biblical picture we need to communicate? As adults, what can we do when we realize we might have been rudely insensitive or inconsiderate with another? (hint if needed: Psalm 139:24, Matthew 5:23-24)

4. How does rudeness relate to selfishness in v. 5? Why is it important that Paul continually addresses the inward as well as the outward? How should we pray for our own heart and help others with theirs, in light of these phrases in v. 5?

5. What are some ways we might "insist on our own way" in life or church life (or seek our own or self)? What's the biblical cure for that tendency?

6. How does Christ's love transform our tendencies to rudeness and selfishness? What truths from the gospel are most helpful for you, so you can seek love (14:1) instead of seeking self?