

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: 9/26/2021 – “The Supreme Excellence of Christ’s Way of Love” (1 Corinthians 12:31-13:3)

1. Our church purpose statement says we exist by God’s grace and for God’s glory as the ultimate aim in all we do? Why is this important to start with as we pursue love to others (14:1a, see 10:31, 15:10, 16:14)?
2. How might you paraphrase 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 and update its analogies for today? What do you see in our world today that makes this study of love timely for us?
3. What are some ways the love of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 can be taken out of context? Is there something you see from the context of this text that helps you understand and apply it rightly?
4. Is there a phrase in v. 4-7 that stands out or convicts you? What would applying love in your family or church look like for that particular phrase? (If not sure, ask God in prayer and ask fellow believers).
5. As we gather, we’re called to “consider how we may stir one another to love” (Hebrews 10:24)? Consider and share who or what you can today, or in a small group? How and when will you do this?
6. What’s a way you’ve experienced the love of someone at this church? What’s a way you’ve expressed love recently that encouraged another believer?
7. For personal reflection and prayer for God’s help: who can you “pursue love” (14:1) with this week? How and when will you pursue them in loving conversation?