

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

That More Excellent Way 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- I. Heartless Effort vs. 1-3
 - A. Perfect communication can reveal our imperfect heart. (Gen 11:1-9)
 - 1. They wanted to be seen and understood. Respected.
 - 2. Vs .6 nothing they propose will be withheld = self destruction
 - 3. What happens? Exactly what they were trying to avoid (vs 4/8-9)
 - B. Enhanced abilities can reveal our inability to effect real change on our own
 - 1. To know and even understand all things is partial. Dispassionate. Robotic.
 - 2. Supernatural ability is at God's discretion, not ours (John 19:11)
 - C. Noble actions can reveal our self-centeredness
 - 1. Are we looking for a benefit? Tax write off, pat on the back, a favor in return
 - 2. Are we looking for absolution? Guilt, debt (Rom 13:8)
 - D. The stuff we do can have lasting impressions, but it does nothing for you.
 - 1. Billionaires will have way more effect on homelessness than you ever could
 - 2. Famous people's empty words can inspire millions to do great things
 - 3. God wants more for you and from you than that.
 - a. He wants it to be personal growth.
 - b. He wants and actual relationship
- II. Heartful Effort vs. 4-7
 - A. Love is Patient and Kind
 - 1. Patience is 2 words μακρός: long, far, remote and θυμός: Passion, wrath
 - 2. Kindness/goodness . This is how you get forgiveness. (Rom 2:4)
 - B. Love does not
 - 1. Love is not seeking it's own. (1 Cor 10:24, Phil 2:3-4)
 - 2. It doesn't have negative reactions. That only happens when seeking it's own.
 - 3. Doesn't dwell on evil or what was taken. Love gives (John 10:10)
 - C. Wants to Support (Matt 11:28-30)
 - 1. The truth is we are made for more than ourselves (Gal 2:20)
 - 2. Love is strong and shares in relationship (1 Cor 12:26)
- III. Abiding Love Vs. 8-13
 - A. Understanding where things end and what the plot is (Matt 7:21-23)
 - 1. Could be false prophecies & signs from a deceptive heart (2 Thess 2:9-10)
 - 2. Could be someone wanting community, but not a devoted (Matt 7:24-27)
 - B. Understanding how we mature
 - 1. The law is supported by and predicated by love (Matt 22:34-40)
 - 2. However, the law also defines what love is (John 14:15-18, 2 John 4-6)
 - C. Understanding how we continue
 - 1. Faith is knowing what He can do
 - 2. Hope is knowing that He will do it

3. Love is being a part of what He's doing. Having a relationship with Him.
4. We abide in that we make Him the focus of our lives. (John 15:9-11)