

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 04 March 2018..... 1Cor 1-3 .....United in Christ
- 2) 11 March..... 1Cor 4-6 ..... Glorifying God
- 3) 18 March..... 1Cor 7 .....Keeping Commitments
- 4) 25 March..... 1Cor 8-10 ..... Influencing for Christ
- 5) 01 April..... 1Cor 15-16; John 20:3-9..... Assurance of the Resurrection
- 6) 08 April..... 1Cor 11 .....Remembering the Sacrifice
- 7) 15 April..... 1Cor 12 & 14 ..... Serving God's People
- 8) **22 April..... 1Cor 13..... Understanding Love**
- 9) 29 April..... 2Cor 1-2 ..... Enjoying God's Comfort
- 10) 06 May..... 2Cor 3-4 ..... Displaying the Gospel
- 11) 13 May..... 2Cor 5-7 ..... Becoming New
- 12) 20 May..... 2Cor 7-9 ..... Giving Faithfully
- 13) 27 May..... 2Cor 10-13 ..... Finding Strength

**INTRODUCTION**

- The Corinthians may have had every conceivable spiritual gift needed to be fully established in their faith, but their inflated pride, unconfessed sin, and selfishness kept them very immature ..... **1Cor 3:2; 5:2**
- Paul pulled every punch he could to get the Corinthians to fly straight. He sweet-talked, persuaded, reasoned, pleaded and even warned them about succumbing to an early death
- In Chapter 13 he makes a strong appeal for them to consider the LOVE factor to resolve their infighting over spiritual gifts
- Paul used "agape" 9x in 13 verses ..... **1Cor 13:1,2,3,4x3,8,13x2**

Passage	Comments																																				
13:1-3	<p><b>Hyperboles – Extreme exaggerations to make a Pt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul did not say he spoke with angelic tongues or that he understood every mystery or that he had faith to move mountains or that he gave all his possessions away to the poor or that he even gave his body over to be burned</li> <li>• Paul used these hyperboles to stress how useless they would be without doing those actions with LOVE</li> </ul>																																				
13:4-8a	<p><b>Attributes of LOVE &amp; Attributes of GOD</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">What Love Does</th> <th colspan="2">What Love Does Not Do</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Is Patient</td> <td>9</td> <td>Is not jealous</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Is Kind</td> <td>10</td> <td>Is not boastful</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Rejoices in the truth</td> <td>11</td> <td>Is not conceited or arrogant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Bears all things</td> <td>12</td> <td>Does not act improperly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Believes all things</td> <td>13</td> <td>Is not selfish or seeks its own</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Hopes all things</td> <td>14</td> <td>Is not provoked</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Endures all things</td> <td>15</td> <td>Does not keep a record of wrongs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Love Never Fails</td> <td>16</td> <td>Finds no joy in unrighteousness</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	What Love Does		What Love Does Not Do		1	Is Patient	9	Is not jealous	2	Is Kind	10	Is not boastful	3	Rejoices in the truth	11	Is not conceited or arrogant	4	Bears all things	12	Does not act improperly	5	Believes all things	13	Is not selfish or seeks its own	6	Hopes all things	14	Is not provoked	7	Endures all things	15	Does not keep a record of wrongs	8	Love Never Fails	16	Finds no joy in unrighteousness
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1Cor 13:8-12	<p><b>Gifts of prophecies, tongues and knowledge will one day end – but when? → "When that which is Perfect or Completed is come"</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibilities include:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Completion of the Canon of Scripture</li> <li>2. The Rapture of the Church</li> <li>3. Second Coming of Christ</li> <li>4. The Death of each Believer</li> <li>5. The Death of the Apostle Paul</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>Paul does not give us the answer in this passage.</b> We have to consider the whole counsel of God                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Rom 15:19.</b> Paul says he preached the Gospel with mighty signs and wonders (perfect tense – needs not to be repeated)</li> <li>♦ <b>2Cor 12:12.</b> The signs of Apostles were shown to you (past tense)</li> <li>♦ <b>Heb 2:3-4.</b> The Word of God was confirmed by signs following (aorist/past tense)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conclusion.</b> Signs and wonders such as the gifts of healings, prophecies, tongues, knowledge, miracles, etc, stopped even before the Apostles had finished laying the church's foundation..... <b>Eph 2:20</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Paul couldn't even get his own thorn in the flesh healed ..... <b>2 Cor 12:7-9</b></li> <li>2. Paul couldn't heal Epaphroditus ..... <b>Phil 2:25-27</b></li> <li>3. Where Paul once was able to heal everyone on the island of Malta including of dysentery (<b>Acts 28:9</b>), Paul had to tell Timothy not to seek out someone with the gifts of healings, or of miracles, but to take some medicine (drink some wine) for his stomach problem and other "frequent ailments" ..... <b>1 Tim 5:23</b></li> <li>4. Paul left Trophimus sick in Miletum ..... <b>2 Tim 4:20</b></li> <li>5. James didn't tell the sick to find someone with the gifts of healings or miracles, but to have the Elders pray for them and to confess any sin so they would receive a healing.....<b>James 5:13-16</b></li> </ol> </li> </ul>
13:13	<p><b>LOVE NEVER FAILS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul mentioned the triad of Faith, Hope and Love in several of his letters ..... <b>Col 1:4-5; 1Thes 1:3; 5:8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Faith ends when it is replaced by facts or by sight</li> <li>♦ Hope ends when it has been realized</li> <li>♦ But LOVE has no end and therefore never fails</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- **Jerome** handed down the following tradition of the beloved **John the Apostle:** When John was an old man in Ephesus he had to be carried to the church in the arms of his disciples. At these meetings he was accustomed to say no more than, "Little children, love one another!" After a time the disciples wearied at always hearing the same words asked him, "Master, why do you always say this?" John's reply, "It is the Lord's command, and if this alone be done, it is enough!" - *The Search for the Twelve Apostles*, by Dr. W. S. McBirnie (Recall that Ephesus was the church that lost their first love)

**NEXT WEEK: 2Corinthians 1-2.** We learn that we should not trust in ourselves and we are not to be ignorant of Satan's schemes.



Trash Talking at the Church Golf Outing