

SERMON NOTES

Date: November 11, 2018

Series: Messy Church

Title: The Excellency of Love

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:28-13:13

Big Idea: Love is better than the best spiritual gifts.

MAKE IT REAL

Questions for Personal Application and Small Group Discussion

DISCUSS THE ISSUE

How is the world's perspective toward love different from God's perspective?

Have you ever witnessed someone (maybe yourself) using spiritual gifts without love? What was the outcome?

Why is having love in your heart more excellent than the best spiritual gifts?

What is "the perfect" in 1 Corinthians 13:9?

APPLY THE TRUTH

How does understanding that love never fails and that spiritual gifts will pass away shape your perspective of your role in the church?

How can you evaluate whether you're using your spiritual gifts in love or not? What questions do you need to be asking yourself?

Not only should you serve the church *in* Christlike love, but also *because* of Christ's love. Look through the description of love (v. 4-7) and think of examples from Jesus' life and ministry where he displayed what love is, is not, and does.

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Discovering your spiritual gifts will come more naturally if you are pursuing love actively (1 Cor.14:1). How are you going to "pursue love" this week? Who is going to be the object of your love?