

Sermon Title: Grow Up

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Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 13:8-12 "Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

The mess at Corinth

Paul had a huge mess to clean up in the church at Corinth. He dealt with these problems one-by-one by applying a right understanding of the _____ and the heart motivation of _____ .

The continuing work of the Holy Spirit

The gifts listed in scripture continue to be given by the Holy Spirit and are operational in the world today.

God uses the gifts of the Spirit, when used rightly, motivated by and operated in love, to _____ and _____ the Body of Christ.

Grow up:

- 1) in the way you view the _____ (work toward unity)
- 2) in the way you view your own _____ (sexual purity and intimacy in marriage)
- 3) in the way you _____ others above yourself (love is the highest law)
- 4) in the way you _____ together (celebrating the Lord's Supper)
- 5) in the way you _____ in the gifts (character trumps gifting; use gifts for the common good)

Whenever you are not sure what to do, ask yourself this question: what does _____ look like here?

Questions for discussion in House Churches, family devotions and discipleship groups:

- 1) Think about the question, "What does love look like here?" Can you see a way that applying love (in Paul's definition of love in this chapter) can help you in your current situation in your home, work, school, etc.?
- 2) Paul corrected the errors of the Corinthian church by the right understanding and application of the gospel. In what ways do you think the application of the gospel can help you in the difficulties you are facing today?
- 3) In what ways does the gospel help to sustain us in faith, hope and love?

Fill-ins: gospel, love, grow, mature, body of Christ, physical body, prefer, worship, operate, love

*Pursue love,
and earnestly
desire the
spiritual gifts.*

(1 Cor 14:1)