

"THE GREATEST IS LOVE"
1 Corinthians 13

What is love?

- In culture?
- In the church?

1 Corinthians 13 - Love is the answer to all their issues

- 1 Cor. 8:1, 14:1, 16:13-14 - Love is the key!

The NECESSITY of Love (v.1-3)

- Love is not an option in the Christian life, but a requirement
- Matthew 22:34-40 - The greatest command: to love God and love your neighbor
- 1 John 4:7-8 - If we know God, we will love!

The DESCRIPTION of Love (v.4-7)

- 1 John 4:7-12 - We know what love is by looking at Jesus' love for his people!
- Three types of love: ❶ Eros; ❷ Phileo; ❸ Agape
- Two cautions
 1. Tolerance ≠ Love
 2. Love is not a sentiment or mere feeling (cf. 1 John 3:16-18)
- Who must we love? ❶ God and ❷ Neighbor

The ETERNITY of Love (v.8-13)

- The fading nature of the gifts: Two illustrations
 1. Child becoming an adult (v.11)
 2. Seeing through a mirror (v.12)
- Love remains! The greatest is love!

The PRACTICE of Love → **sacrificially meeting people's needs (spiritual and physical)**

- Love Pierre
- Love South Dakota
- Love the World

*****All three spheres are important → every believer should be involved in each sphere!*****

- ❶ Prayerfully consider → How are you doing?
→ How are you currently involved?
- ❷ Pray that God would show you how he has creatively made you to get involved in loving Pierre, in loving South Dakota, and in loving the world!