

1 John 4:7-13

June 15, 2023

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:8

Pastor Chuck dived deep into how important it is that we not only love God, but that we truly love others. He started off with asking the question, "What really matters in life?". When some of us initially think about that question we may say our children, family, job, etc; however, Pastor Chuck goes on to say that God says love is what really matters the most.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 states this: If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. (NIV version)

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) Do you have any unique food favorites? What is your favorite meal to eat?
- 2) Did you read the Double Blessings book? How did that impact you? Do you have any praise reports during this last season?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your sermon notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything said that caught your attention, challenged you or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 1) Read 1 Timothy 1:5-7 – Have you ever experienced someone that may be more about following God's commandments, then being active in loving others? What does this verse tell us the goal is?
- 2) Are you active in how you love others? Do you show others love that overflows and spills like boiling water as Pastor Chuck gave an example?
- 3) Pastor Chuck talked about hearing and listening with your heart. What is an example that you have been able to discern someone's heart, or maybe they discerned your heart? Give an example. What truth does hearing from the heart bring to you?

TAKING IT HOME

1 Peter 4:8 says Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

Loving others can come easy to some and harder to others, but one thing that we know to be true is the greatest commandment is to love, because God is love. ABOVE ALL ELSE. That is such a strong and powerful scripture to take home and think about this week.

PRAYER TIME

Give a guided prayer instruction to tie it all together. Be mindful of the time it would take larger groups to get through the prayer exercise. It can be simple.

ACTION STEPS

Pray this week about someone that God wants to put on your heart to pour some extra love on. Hear with your heart and then take action. Give them a call and pray with them and check in on them. Give them a hug if you see them. Do something that will lift them up this week and I promise you it will lift you up too.