



OVERFLOW - WEEK 9

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

WELCOME TO LIFE GROUP

This Fall, we are focusing on our values of Experiencing God and Loving Others through our sermon series, OVERFLOW.

This week, Bubba walked us through the one of the most famous passages on love in all of Scripture - 1 Corinthians 13 - commonly called “the love chapter.”

In it, we discovered no what the embodiment of love looks like in the life of a follower of Jesus, and why love is the only true measure of maturity in Christ.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Our discipleship to Jesus is meant to be a holistic way of living, involving our whole selves - **head, heart, and hands**. While each person will likely gravitate to one of these over the others, it's important we all consider how God's love affects our minds, our hearts, and our actions.



What idea from the sermon stuck out to you most this week?



What questions do you have that were either raised or left unanswered by the sermon?



Has there ever been a time when someone you thought was mature turned out to be unloving? What about them made them seem mature?

How have you measured maturity as a follower of Jesus in the past? By how well we love, or something else?

Why is it significant that “love never ends” (v8)? How does that put other measures of Christian “maturity” in perspective?



Look again at the list of attributes of Christ-like love: Love is **patient**, love is **kind**. Love **does not envy**, is **not boastful**, is **not arrogant**,⁵ is **not rude**, is **not self-seeking**, is **not irritable**, and **does not keep a record of wrongs**.⁶ Love **finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth**.⁷ It **bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things**.

Which of these attributes is most challenging to you personally in this season of life?

Growing in maturity is not always a linear process. We sometimes cycle through seasons of maturity and immaturity.

As you think about Christ-like love, would you say you're currently in a season of growth in maturity, or do you feel like you've been more mature in love in the past?

What does growing in love look like for you in this season?



RESPONSE

Hopefully, over the course of the past 9 weeks, you've gotten a chance to know each other better in your Life Group. Given what you know about the others in your group, take a moment to name the aspects of Christ-like love you see most clearly in one another.

CLOSING PRAYER

Take some time at the end of Life Group to thank God for the ways that he has grown you in love, and to pray that he would continue to mature you in love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

¹ If I speak human or angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give away all my possessions, and if I give over my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, ⁵ is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ 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 put aside childish things. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known. ¹³ Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love – but the greatest of these is love. -- 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (CSB)