

A MORE EXCELLENT WAY!

1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

- Love creates **harmony** among the **gifts**.

- Love is "**others-centered**."

- Love requires **maturity**.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. In 1 Corinthians 12:31b we are told that love, as defined in Chapter 13, is a more excellent way. Why would love be more important (excellent) than working hard at developing our giftedness and ministries?

2. When you think of the gifts given to you by the Holy Spirit, how would you need to change how you minister to others in order to create harmony with all the other gifted people in the church?

3. Love, as described in verses 4 – 8, is hard because it requires selflessness. Talk about practical ways we can encourage each other to accomplish this goal and to "stimulate one other toward love and good deeds"(Heb 10:24 - 25).

4. Discuss the difference between covering an offense with Love (Proverbs 10:12, 17:9 and 1 Peter 4:8), and allowing your brother to remain immature by not confronting sin (Matthew 18:12 – 17 and Luke 17:2-4)

5. Our churches purpose statement is "Bringing glory to God by making mature disciples of Jesus". How does loving one another bring about that goal?

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Randy Shultz

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle