

“LOVE IS: THE MOST EXCELLENT WAY”

Ash Wednesday, February 26, 2020

1. **PAUL BELIEVED IN THE POWER AND THE PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL OVER ANY EVIL.**
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Corinthians 1:3 NIV)
2. **PEOPLE THOUGHT THEY HAD A BETTER WAY AND PAUL POINTS THEM TO CHRIST'S WAY.**
And yet I will show you the most excellent way. (1 Corinthians 12:31b NIV)
3. **PAUL ARGUES WHY LOVE IS THE MOST EXCELLENT WAY OVER:**
 - a. **THE QUALITY OF YOUR TALK.**
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. (1 Corinthians 13:1 NIV)
 - b. **THE TYPE OF SPIRITUAL GIFT.**
If I have the gift of prophecy...but do not have love, I am nothing.
(1 Corinthians 13:2 NIV)
 - c. **THE AMOUNT OF KNOWLEDGE.**
and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, ... but do not have love, I am nothing.
(1 Corinthians 13:2 NIV)
 - d. **THE POWER OF YOUR FAITH.**
and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.
(1 Corinthians 13:2 NIV)
 - e. **THE DEPTH OF YOUR GIVING.**
If I give all I possess to the poor... but do not have love, I gain nothing.
(1 Corinthians 13:3 NIV)
 - f. **THE SACRIFICE OF YOUR BODY.**
and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:3 NIV)
4. **THE MOST EXCELLENT WAY IS LOVE.**
(Luke 15:11-32)

MEMORY VERSE

We love because he first loved us. (1 John 4:19 NIV)

GOING DEEPER IN THE HOME

1. What great things are we doing that are falling short because we do not have love in us?
2. Spend time in prayer asking God to pour His love into you, and consequently, your actions.