

# 1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

**Sermon Title:** "LOVE: The Way of the Spirit"

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Pastor Stephen Schultze / Sunday, July 18, 2021

**God has given every believer gifts through the Holy Spirit to be a \_\_\_\_\_ member of the Body of Christ.**

- The way of the Spirit is love, not \_\_\_\_\_. (*1 Corinthians 12:31*)

**1. Without Love, the most eloquent \_\_\_\_\_ is empty noise.** (v. 1)

*Scripture: Ephesians 4:15-16; Matthew 12:33-37; Ephesians 4:29-30*

- The body of Christ should be a concert of grace—each member using their gifts to communicate love in \_\_\_\_\_ with the Holy Spirit. (*Proverbs 25:11*)

**2. Without Love, the \_\_\_\_\_ to know great things and do mighty acts is nothing.** (v. 2)

*Scripture: Matthew 7:21-23; Mark 12:29-31*

- The gifts of the Spirit are given to build God's glorious church, not our \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Without Love, the most \_\_\_\_\_ acts are empty of reward.** (v. 3)

*Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:12-14; Galatians 5:22-24*

- Employing the gifts of the Spirit without love is spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Conclusion:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, the source of love. (*John 15:5*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ to the Spirit, the way of love. (*Galatians 5:25*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ in selflessness, the practice of love. (*Galatians 5:13*)

## **Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...**

- How is love the more excellent way?
- Why does Paul address communication first?
- How ought the fruit of the Spirit direct the work of the Spirit (gifts)?
- How does abiding in Christ yield the fruit of love?
- What does it mean to "walk in the Spirit" or "keep in step with the Spirit"?
- In what ways can loving service in the body of Christ ultimately impact the world?