

GROUP DISCUSSION | Week 4: The Greatest of These

SERIES OVERVIEW

In this series, **Bring Your Brick**, we'll dive into 1 Corinthians and explore the importance of using our spiritual gifts for the glory of God. We will learn how each gift is important for the functioning of the church and how we can work together to build a strong and vibrant community of believers. Gift by gift and brick by brick.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

Think of this discussion guide as a springboard. Use what's helpful to your group and don't feel like you've got to cover every aspect of the guide. Collective conversation centered on God's truth is the goal.

CONNECTION

What's the best example of teamwork you've seen or experienced? What made it so admirable? Was it the way a football team came together to win the latest National Championship or the way an ensemble seemed to perfectly come together to create beautiful art? What was it for you?

TRUTH

Consider what we know about Paul's first letter to the Church at Corinth. What were the problems faced by the Corinthian Church related to the misuse of spiritual gifts, and how did this impact the church community?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:31. What did Paul mean when he urged the Corinthians to "eagerly desire the greater gifts" and what was the "most excellent way" he spoke about?

How does the Holy Spirit play a role in changing a Christian's life and developing the fruit of the Spirit? What is the difference between the gifts of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit, and how are they both important for Christians to develop?

In what ways can followers of Jesus cultivate "the most excellent way" of love in their lives, and how can this impact their communities and their witness for Christ?

APPLICATION

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8. Monte shared how in our text, Paul explains 2 characteristics of agape love that reveal why it is so essential to our ministry: love is enriching (1-3) and love builds up (4-8). What is agape love and why is it important in ministry?

How does God's love for humanity serve as an example of agape love? Why is it essential to use our spiritual gifts to serve God and build up the church rather than advancing our own agendas?

What does Paul mean when he says that spiritual gifts are useless without love?

Why is love the glue that holds everything together, according to Paul? What's that look like practically?

PRAYER

Spend time praying for unity at NorthEast. Pray for our church leaders, our church body, and that God would continue being glorified in and through our church!