

Dear Friends,

On Sunday we began a new sermon series titled: ***The Essentials: Faith, Hope and Love.***

These spiritual essentials come from 1 Corinthians 13, where Paul talks about love then admits not everything is as clear as it will be someday.

*“Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.*

*Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.*

*Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.” I Corinthians 13:4-7;12-13 (NLT)*

Paul writes with great confidence and eloquence about the nature of love. He also admits that his knowledge is partial and incomplete; that his view, *our view*, is imperfect. Then he adds with emphasis, that three things *will* last forever: Faith, Hope and Love.

We may experience God’s grace indirectly at times; we know the depths of God’s love for us, but we don’t always believe it; we have experienced the power of forgiveness, but we still struggle to offer it freely to others.

Like the early church we too need spiritual resources that will help us navigate the current circumstance we find ourselves in. Paul suggests that even though we can’t see things all that clearly, like a poor reflection in a mirror, we can hold on to what remains: Faith, Hope and Love.

This is my prayer for you this week, that you discover the power of these three in your daily lives.

Blessings,



Pastor John

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