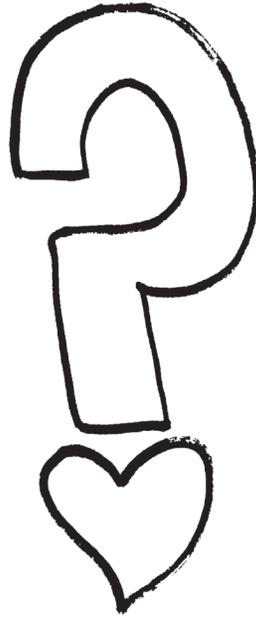


LOVE



I CORINTHIANS 12:31 – 13:13

Paul is writing to a group of new believers in Corinth made up of both Jews and Gentiles. They are fighting, and Paul is trying to show them how to live in community, how to treat each other, how to embrace those with different opinions as brothers and sisters in Christ. He's trying to explain the true nature of God's radical love to the Corinthians. Anything you do, he tells them, any accomplishment or sacrifice or knowledge or wonder, is meaningless without love. Love is patient, he tells them. It goes on forever, enduring everything, without envy or arrogance or selfishness or resentment. Not only that, but we aren't even capable of understanding how big and enduring love really is. It's bigger than anything we can see clearly.

TALK ABOUT THIS ...

Think about these words about division and taking sides from Luther Seminary faculty member Karoline Lewis on workingpreacher.org: *"We choose which side we are on and then, to make ourselves feel better or justified about our decision, we proceed to suspect, demonize, and tear down the other side. As someone once said, 'The one who is wrong is the one who says 'I am right.'"* What do you think? Are there examples of this in your community or school? Can it be fixed? How?



LOVE

What did Jesus' kind of love in action look like in Corinth? What does (or should) it look like today?



RESURRECTION

How are we called to bring healing to the world?



SURPRISE

How are we called to love our enemies? Why is that such a difficult thing to do??

FAITH⁵ ... A BEDTIME ROUTINE FOR FAMILIES

SHARE your highs and lows from the day. READ the Bible story. TALK about how the Bible story relates to your highs and lows. PRAY for one another's highs and lows, and BLESS one another.

MORE INFORMATION: faith5.org