



THE ETERNAL GIFT

(1 CORINTHIANS 13)



BIG IDEA – Everything we do is to be out of love
(including using our spiritual gifts).

Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13

RECAP

- 1) What did we learn last week about spiritual gifts and how they should be used?
The Holy Spirit gives us gifts so that we can use them to serve the body of Christ (ie they are to be used to build up the church)

(12:27-31)

- 2) How would you answer the questions raised in verses 29 and 30?
With a big fat 'NO'

- 3) What then, are we instructed to do instead?

We are to desire the greater gifts (we will get to what these are in due course)

(13:1-3)

- 4) What three word phrase is repeated in these verses? What is the result of this?
'have not love'. The result is that using our gifts becomes pointless.

- 5) What do you think these verses are telling us about spiritual gifts?

That we are to use them for good things. We are to be loving God and loving those who will benefit from us using our gifts.

(13:8-13)

- 6) Ultimately, what will happen to love? What about other gifts?

Love will continue eternally, whereas other gifts will cease.

7) Why do you think this is the case?

We will no longer have need for our other gifts in heaven as the body of the Christ will be complete (which is the purpose of other gifts).

(13:4-7)

8) *Thinking about the blank as 'love' vs '[your name]'*

_____ is patient,
_____ is kind.
_____ does not envy,
_____ does not boast,
_____ is not proud.
_____ is not rude,
_____ is not self-seeking,
_____ is not easily angered,
_____ keeps no record of wrongs.
_____ does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
_____ always protects,
_____ always trusts,
_____ always hopes,
_____ always perseveres,
_____ never fails.

9) In light of everything we have studied on spiritual gifts, what do you need to do/change in order to be using your gifts more effectively?