

The Body of Christ



May 8, 2016

Rooted in Love

FAITH



Share: share your Highs & Lows of the day.



Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text.

8 Sunday, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 -- Faith, Hope, and Love

9 Monday, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 – Actions for the Neighbor

10 Tuesday, 1 Corinthian 9:19-23 – Freedom for the Other

11 Wednesday, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 – Imperishable Wreath

12 Thursday, 1 Corinthians 10:23 – 11:1 – Do All To the Glory of God

13 Friday, 1 Corinthians 11:23- 26 – Institution of the Lord's Supper

14 Saturday, 1 Corinthians 11:17 -22, 27- 33 – Abuses of the Lord's Supper



Talk: study the reading and consider the background.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is the glue that binds humanity together. It is a living, breathing thing that gives life to those who hold it within themselves and give it away. Today's reading describes clearly how love operates and thrives in this world.

How does love shape you?

Who do you love?

Who loves you?

Who is hard to love?

What could you do to make it easier to love those who are harder to love?

What are your spiritual gifts?

Who has spiritual gifts that complement yours?

How can you do more together than you could do by yourself?

Notes from Sunday to support this week's devotions:



Pray: Pray for your Highs & Lows, for yourself, for your family, and for the world. You can use this prayer or make your own.

Loving God, your love can transform any dark thing into light. Help us to love as you love, with patience, kindness, selflessness, and joy. Amen.

Prayer Concerns to take home for this week:



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing. Mark the sign of the cross on each other's head or your own forehead and use words of blessing like:

- * You are a blessed and loved child of God, marked by the cross of Christ forever.
- * Jesus loves you and so do I.
- * May God fill you abundantly with spiritual gifts. Amen.

By acting on what we learn, we are blessed to be a blessing.
Consider the following activity this week.

Find someone with complementary gifts. Work together do accomplish a project you would have trouble accomplishing on your own – a food drive at your church, a video of your church's outreach programs, visiting the sick or shut-in, etc.

The apostle Paul wrote a beautiful story about Jesus' love. Here is what he wrote: Love is the most important spiritual gift ever.

If I am brilliant and speak with wisdom, my wisdom is nothing if I don't love. If I am a genius and understand things about the world nobody else understands, my knowledge is nothing if I don't love. If I have so much faith I can move mountains with it, my faith is nothing if I don't love. Even if I am so generous that I give away everything I own, my generosity is nothing if I don't love. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love is not jealous. Love is not filled with pride. Love is not selfish. Love doesn't hold a grudge. Love is not rude. Love is not crabby. Love does not rejoice in wrong. Love rejoices in truth. Love can make shared suffering bearable. Love makes us happy when others succeed. Love is filled with faith. Love is filled with hope. Love can endure anything. Love will last forever. Wherever there are people on the earth, there is faith, hope, and love. The greatest of these is love.

Faith

Hope

Love

Let's see if you can color each of the words to show how special they are! Draw beside them to show what each one means to you.