

SOLVING THE MYSTERY Part 4: "The Best Evidence"

> October 28, 2018 Pastor Chris Jung

"But you are not ruled by your sinful selves. You are ruled by the Spirit, if that Spirit of God really lives in you."

Romans 8:9 (ERV)

## THE BEST EVIDENCE THAT I HAVE GIVEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CONTROL OF MY LIFE IS THAT...

## 1. ...I MAKE LOVE THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ OF

*"If I were to speak with eloquence in earth's many languages, and in the heavenly tongues of angels, <u>yet I didn't express myself with love</u>, my words would be reduced to the hollow sound of nothing more than a clanging cymbal.* 

1.

And if I were to have the gift of prophecy with a profound understanding of God's hidden secrets, and if I possessed unending supernatural knowledge, and if I had the greatest gift of faith that could move mountains, <u>but have never learned to love</u>, then I am nothing.

And if I were to be so generous as to give away everything I owned to feed the poor, and to offer my body to be burned as a martyr, <u>without the pure</u> <u>motive of love</u>, I would gain nothing of value.

<u>Love</u> is large and incredibly patient. <u>Love</u> is gentle and consistently kind to all. <u>It</u> refuses to be jealous when blessing comes to someone else. <u>Love</u> does not brag about one's achievements nor inflate its own importance. <u>Love</u> does not traffic in shame and disrespect, nor selfishly seek its own honor. <u>Love</u> is not easily irritated or quick to take offense. <u>Love</u> joyfully celebrates honesty and finds no delight in what is wrong. <u>Love</u> is a safe place of shelter, for <u>it</u> never stops believing the best for others. <u>Love</u> never takes failure as defeat, for <u>it</u> never gives up.

<u>Love</u> never stops loving. <u>It</u> extends beyond the gift of prophecy, which eventually fades away. <u>It</u> is more enduring than tongues, which will one day fall silent. <u>Love</u> remains long after words of knowledge are forgotten. Our present knowledge and our prophecies are but partial, but when <u>love's</u> perfection arrives, the partial will fade away. When I was a child, I spoke about childish matters, for I saw things like a child and reasoned like a child. But the day came when I matured, and I set aside my childish ways.

2.

For now we see but a faint reflection of riddles and mysteries as though reflected in a mirror, but one day we will see face-to-face. My understanding is incomplete now, but one day I will understand everything, just as everything about me has been fully understood. Until then, there are three things that remain: faith, hope, and <u>love</u>—yet <u>love</u> surpasses them all. So above all else, let <u>love</u> be the beautiful prize for which you run."

1 Corinthians 13 (TPT)

## 2. ...I DON'T STOP \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ UNTIL LOVE HAS FULLY \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

*"But the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit within you is divine <u>love</u> in all its varied expressions:* 

joy that overflows, peace that subdues, patience that endures (never-quitting), kindness (sweetness) in action, a life full of virtue (goodness), faith that prevails, gentleness of heart, and strength of spirit (lordship, spirit-strength).

Never set the law above these qualities, for they are meant to be limitless."

Galatians 5:22-23 (TPT)

3.