

Love Missions

1 Corinthians 13:1

February 3, 2008

INTRODUCTION:

1. Missionary work should have a vital role in every church
 - a. We must pray earnestly for missions
 - b. We must pay the way for those called to missions
 - c. We must send people from our churches to serve in missions
2. Missionary work is a work of love
 - a. Missionaries carry a message of love
 - b. The Gospel is God's great love story
 - c. The Bible is God's love letter to us all

Read Passage

I. To Love Missions Is to Love People (v.1)

- A. We sometimes become mechanical about missions
- B. We may focus only on outward things
 - a. Maps and conferences
 - b. Information about missions; customs, problems, etc.
- C. Missionary work without loving people is worthless
 - a. Missionary strategy without love
 - b. Missionary journeys without love
- D. Missionaries, at home or abroad, must love people
 - a. Without love all missionary effort is fruitless
 - b. Without love all missionary teaching is just noise

II. To Love Missions is to Love Souls

- A. Some love people but care only for outward needs
 - a. Food, housing, clothing, education
 - b. Meeting physical needs is important but not everything
 - c. People can be well cared for and still go to hell
- B. Jesus stressed the importance of the soul (Mark 8:36)
- C. Missions should stress reaching people for Jesus
- D. Who cares if a sinner goes to hell?
 - a. The Father cares and sent His Son
 - b. The Son cares and came to die for sinners
 - c. The Holy Spirit cares and calls sinners to repentance
 - d. The devil cares and still welcomes those walking in darkness
 - e. What about you and me?

III. To Love Missions is to Love Jesus

- A. "If you love Me keep My commandments" (John 14:15)
- B. the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20)
- C. Our Lord calls us witnesses (Acts 1:8)
- D. Do you love Jesus enough to tell others of His love?

CONCLUSION:

- What part does love play in your missionary vision?
 - Do you love people?
 - Do you love souls?
 - Do you love Jesus?