CORNERSTONE
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

STUDY GUIDE | SERMON: APRIL 19, 2020

LOVE IS

The points from last week's message were:

- Our hope isn't that God will redeem us from suffering but that he will redeem us through suffering.
- We hold on to this hope by:
  - Remembering that Jesus has gone before us.
  - Remembering that Jesus is with us.
  - What is one way you noticed Jesus walking with you this past week?

LET'S TALK

1. What impacted you most from this week's message?

2. Pastor Andrew quotes Einstein as saying: "Adversity introduces a man to himself." What have you learned about yourself in the last little while?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. How do these verses demonstrate that "The Christian way of life is love for others over against self-interest?"

4. According to Paul, impressive demonstrations of spiritual gifting, faith, generosity, self-sacrifice are only futile and self-serving religious trappings if they do not have love.
   Do you agree with that? Do you think this is a hard idea for people to grasp?

5. The message describes agape-love as "the highest form of love which is unconditional, sacrificial, self-giving love that is not dependent on the one being loved, but on the commitment of the one acting."

   What is one way you can apply Paul's teaching on agape-love this week?

LET'S PRAY

Close by praying this prayer of Francis of Assisi together as a group. Go around and have each person take turns praying a line.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.

(continued on next page)

Where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.
Amen.

Spend some time in prayer (for each other, for our community and for the world).