

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

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### Part 2

July 14, 2024

1 Corinthians 13:4-13, <sup>4</sup>“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup>Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a



child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His Word today, in Jesus Name! Amen!

Where do we go from here? Choose to Walk in Love equally with Faith!

## 1. We choose to Walk in Love and Endeavour Against Hate!

- a. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: <sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; <sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; <sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; <sup>5</sup>a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; <sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; <sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; <sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.”

- b. For everything there is a season and that includes navigating the emotional whims of love and hatred; however, they are called to be a season and not a life sentence.
- c. Friends, if we are not careful we will allow temporary influences to generate eternal implications! The Scripture in Ecclesiastes instructs us that there is a time to love and a time to hate; however, Jesus said that 1 John 2:8-11, <sup>8</sup> "At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. <sup>9</sup> Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. <sup>10</sup> Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. <sup>11</sup> But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes."
- d. Church family, we must choose to walk in Love and Endeavor against Hate or Darkness will blind us even to the failures of ourselves.

## 2. We choose to Walk in Love and Endure Through Suffering!

- a. 2 Timothy 2:1-7, “You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. <sup>3</sup> Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup> No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. <sup>5</sup> An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. <sup>6</sup> It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. <sup>7</sup> Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.”
- b. Say it with me, “Share in Suffering”. I believe so many Christians have quit at the point of breakthrough because they reconciled in themselves that what was in front of them was too hard or too painful to endure. But friends, the greatest breakthroughs come when the sufferings have had their needful impact. (Story of Cow)
- c. The Lord uses the seasons of difficulty that we navigate through and He allows no suffering to go to waste. Why? Because when we share in sufferings together and in Christ, it allows us to grow into the image of Christ and knock away the rough edges. Remember, the athlete is not crowned unless he competes by the rules and suffering and difficulty is what prepares him for the race.

d. Church, we must choose to walk in Love and endure sufferings because perhaps those sufferings reveal as much at the season or person as much as it reveals about us individually. We must be willing to go through some things; **DON'T QUIT!!!!**

### **3. We choose to Walk in Love and Embrace True Forgiveness!**

a. Colossians 3:12-14, **“<sup>12</sup> Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”**

b. If we are to put things on we must first take some things off; Jesus has not called us to bear the load that unforgiveness has forged.

c. The Great Dr. Martin Luther King declared, **“Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it.”**

d. Thus, it's time to change our clothes and remove the stained garments that unforgiveness has created. We choose Love and Forgiveness as we Walk with Christ!