

Good Stewardship. Week 3 11/15/2020

“Caring for Community / Family” FBCLA

John 15:9-14; I Corinthians 12:1-6 Dr. Scott T. Arnold.

Introduction: *“All Creatures of our God and King”*  
(this month Pastor begins sermons with a story about a hymn)

I. Caring for the Covenant of Love (John 15:9-14)

A. Receiving and Remaining in Love (9-11) *<sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.*

B. Laying One’s Life Down in Love (12-14) *<sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command.*

II. Caring to Serve as a Community/Family of faith.  
(I Corinthians 12:1-6)

A. Discern Spiritual gifts and their purpose. (1-3) *<sup>1</sup> Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.*

B. Different Spiritual Gifts through One Spirit. (4-5) . *<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.*

C. Different kinds of working, One God (6) *<sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.*

Conclusion: May we grow to care for our families, our communities by using our gifts and showing affection by serving as Christ leads,

with a vision of God’s Covenant of love, and with compassion for others.

Scripture Passage:

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Questions:

1. Begin to name the people in your life who are essential in God’s Covenant of love. Share this with someone near you.
2. Why is it essential to put in the work needed to love others?
3. How does Jesus show us that love is more than just good feelings or comfortable service? What does Jesus reveal at the cross?
4. Why is spiritual discernment needed so desperately in our day?
5. What would the Apostle Paul say to the divided church of today?