

What is Love? - It Does Not Rejoice at Wrongdoing

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a; Philipians 4:9-10; Romans 6:1-4; Luke 9:51-56

Looking for Trouble

Pop culture examples of rejoicing at wrongdoing: movies like _____; politics; sports; or the workplace. All too often we rejoice at unfortunate circumstances and _____. The Germans have a word to describe this idea: _____. Schadenfreude: a _____ feeling about another person's misfortune because you dislike them, believe they deserve it, or you see them as a rival. Their _____ is your gain.

Rejoicing at Wrongdoing

This isn't _____ about misfortune. Paul is telling us that sin, evil, and wrongdoing is not something to _____. But the connection to wrongdoing is strong. Misfortune is often caused by our own wrongdoing or someone _____. It's easy to spot in _____: on the news, at sporting events, in politics, etc. But do we see it in _____?

In sports _____

On the road _____

Coworkers, bosses, or competitors in
trouble with the law _____

Do you find yourself _____ at their pain? Using it _____ them?

The Opposite of Loving

Rejoicing at wrong-doing is self-_____.

There is no concern for others _____.

Love says, "When they _____, we rejoice. When they _____, we hurt." If the opposite of that is happening, then it must be the _____ of love.

Why Rejoice at Wrongdoing?

We love something else more than _____!

We love _____ more than God,

_____, family and accolades, feeling like we're better than other people, and the approval of people more than we want God's approval. And all of that really means we love ourselves more than anything.

God's Response to All This

NOT: Look at all those jerks getting what they _____!!

NOT: Now I can just wipe 'em all out and start over, or just keep all of heaven to myself.

He sent his very own _____ into this mess. He looked down with _____ on us. He knew our wrongdoing had serious _____. And he loved us enough to face the _____. He would give every last ounce of himself to save us.

What is God saying to you today?

What are you going to do about it?
