

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[Dialogue]

2. Read our primary text. Why do you think Paul feels compelled to "boast like fool?"

He is desperate in his attempt to capture the attention these rebellious Christians. If he can gain their attention, they might turn from believing the opposition and become the pure bride of Christ that Paul longed for them to be.

- 3. Verse two contains some depth. Let's try to define/explain each of the 3 phrases in this verse as it relates to Christ and His Church.
 - "divine jealousy" Like a Father is jealous towards his daughter, so Paul is jealous for the Church
 - "betrothal to one husband" The Church's betrothal is their conversion through Paul's ministry.
 The husband is Jesus Christ-that is its future hope.
 - "present you as a pure virgin to Christ" In Jewish culture, it was the father's responsibility to commit his daughter at betrothal as a pure virgin at her wedding. Paul desires to present the Church to Christ upon His return, "the wedding day."
- 4. What is the threat Paul speaks of in verse 3?

The threat is the lies of the enemy through the false teachings of Paul's opponents in Corinth. Just as Eve was deceived by the lies of Satan in Genesis, so are the Corinthians at risk with such lies.

5. After you read these verses, what do you conclude is Paul's expectation for the Church? What words capture his expectation? How does your walk with the Lord represent the church? Jesus Christ is coming for a pure bride. This bride is to be "sincere" and "pure."

6. How does this text challenge you? How does it affect your daily life?

[Dialogue]

7. How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member?

[Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- How are we doing as a group with the Great Commission?
 - Is there anyone that you need to invite to church or this group?
 - Is there anyone who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
 - Does anyone need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to repent of before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger]
- Let's confess our shortcomings to the Lord and pray what we have learned in God's word.

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)