

THINK ON  
THESE  
THINGS

**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**

The Greatest of These is Love



# THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 13

- **The Attributes and Importance of Love**

- **The Importance**

vv. 1-3

- **The Attributes**

vv. 4-8



# THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT

1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 13

- **Bigger Context: Proper Attitudes**
  - **Misuse/Abuse of Spiritual Gifts**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:4, 6-9, 26-33, 40**
  - **Self-Exaltation, Denigration, Division**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:4, 12; 12:21, 25**



# WHAT WE CAN KNOW FROM THIS

- **Love is the Most Important Thing**

**Col. 3:12-14**

- **The Great Commandment** **Matt. 22:35-40**
- **The New Commandment** **John 13:34**
- **Without Love, All is Meaningless** **1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 13:1-3**



# WHAT WE CAN KNOW FROM THIS

- **Why Love is the Greatest**

- **Faith Will End with Seeing**

**Heb. 11:1**

- **Our Hope Will Be Realized**

**Rom. 8:23-25**

- **Love Will Continue**

**1<sup>st</sup> John 4:8; Rom. 1:20; 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 3:8-10; 12:31; 14:1**



# WHAT WE CAN KNOW FROM THIS

- **This Love We Need!**
  - **Agape (αγάπη): sacrificial love**  
**John 3:16; Ephesians 5:2; Galatians 2:20**
  - **A Fruit of the Spirit**  
**Galatians 5:22; Romans 8:5; 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:8**
  - **The Impetus for Action**  
**1<sup>st</sup> John 3:17, 18**



# WHAT THIS SHOULD MEAN TO US

- **Faith is Good, But Love More So**
  - Faith is Essential  
**Hebrews 11:6; Galatians 5:5-7**
  - **Without Love, Though, I Am Nothing**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:2**



# WHAT THIS SHOULD MEAN TO US

- **Hope is Good, But Love More So**

- **'Hopeless' is Never Good**

- Ephesians 2:12; 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13**

- **The Hope We Have**

- Acts 24:15; Titus 1:1, 2; Hebrews 6:17-20**





# WHAT THIS SHOULD MEAN TO US

- **This Love Must Define Who We Are**
  - **The Faith is Based on Love!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1; 16:14; 13:8; 8:1**

- **In This We Must Excel**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:9, 10**

