

Elmbrook Discussion Questions

1st Corinthians 13 - These Three Remain

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Head: *What is the passage saying?*

Focusing on verse 13, here are three definitions:

Faith: confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Hope: believing that things are going to get better than they are now.

Love: a commitment to seek the well-being of the other

1. What is the practical difference between having faith, and having faith in God?
2. What makes a Christian hope different than wishful thinking?
3. In the midst of discouragement, how can “hope” make perseverance possible?
4. What does Paul want us to know about love?

Heart: *How does this passage influence my inner being?*

1. How has this crisis revealed that you are more selfish or more caring?
2. Which of these virtues - faith, hope, and love - do you sense that God may be calling you to grow in?

Hands: *How do I practically live this out?*

Here are some practical ideas for this week. Or, you may have another idea that helps you practically live out what you are hearing from God. Share a practical, intentional step that can help you put into practice about what God is teaching you.

1. **Care:** Because these three remain - faith, hope, and love - be intentional this week to find an act of caring, when you feel like being selfish.
2. **Pray:** Join in [Every Day Prayer](#) this week (May 18-22). Be intentional this week to place your confident hope in God.
3. **Share:** Confident that these three remain - faith, hope, and love - take an intentional step this week to prepare yourself to share about the good news of Jesus. Be alert for a time to share the gospel.
4. **Worship:** Write out words of worship to God that reflect faith, hope, and love.

Digging Deeper Study: Invest time in learning more about “love” as defined in 1 Corinthians 13. [Loving the Way Jesus Loves](#), by Phil Ryken, is a helpful guide.

