

January Teaching Theme: The Church

讲员 Speaker: Dr. Ted Moon

题目 Topic: “The Most Effective Vaccine”

经文 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13

Monthly Theme: This month our teaching theme will focus on “The Church.” The Church, as we know, is not a building or place or even worship gatherings, but a multi-ethnic community made up of God’s people (Kingdom Citizens). If we don’t understand or grasp the robust vision the Scriptures have for the Church, we will be doomed to not live into our calling as a community. Last week we looked at understanding the Church as a Kingdom Embassy in the world whose chief ethic is reconciliation. Building on top of this, Pastor Tian examined the Church as a family crossing national, ethnic, and cultural boundaries. Then talked about the Church’s new identity in Christ. And this week, Ted Moon, beautifully, finished our series focusing on the nature of the “Body of Christ” from Paul’s words in 1 Corinthians.

一月的证道表 - 主题：教会

January Teaching Schedule - Theme: The Church

3rd – 使馆教会 The Church as an Embassy (圣经神学 Biblical Theology, 哥林多后书 2Corinthians 5)

10th – 上帝的跨国大家庭 The TransNational Family of God (使徒行传 Acts 2:1-40, 以赛亚书 Isaiah 25:6-8)

17th – 圣灵的团契 Community of the Spirit (彼得前书 1 Peter 2:4-5)

24th – 神拣选在世的器皿 God’s Chosen Instrument in the World (提摩太前书 1 Timothy 3:14-16, 彼得前书 1 Peter 2:6-10)

31st – 基督的肢体 The Body of Christ (以爱为根基的合一多元肢体 Unity & Celebrated Diversity, Grounded in Love) (哥林多前书 1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13)

Resources:

[Sermon Video](#)

[Sermon Slides](#)

Discussion Questions:

- (1) Read together 1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13. This is a long passage but I want you all to focus and take it in, in its fullness. What things stand out to you? How would you summarize the passage?
- (2) Diversity in the body is not just with “gifts and abilities” but should be with all human distinctions. (See Gal.3:26-29, Eph 2:11-22, etc.) Diversity also isn’t an accidental attribute of the body but it is the very essence of it. (The body isn’t a body if it doesn’t have the diversity of its different parts). Thus unity cannot mean “sameness” or “uniformity,” but celebrated diversity on all levels unified “in Christ” and the work of the Spirit. What are some ways we can pursue and celebrate diversity? What are some ways we can build unity?
- (3) As we see modeled in Jesus, love will deny itself and look out for the well-being of others even in simple matters. Paul also makes it clear that our “gifts, talents, abilities, and

experience,” can be rendered worthless if they don’t flow out of love. Take the “Love Quiz” from Dr. Moon honestly, together. Examine together what ways we could grow in these characteristics of love. (See [Slides 8-18](#)) [Paper Handouts attached to Email]

- (4) What does it mean to you that you are “fully known” by God and that one day you will “know fully”? (Re-read 1 Cor 13:9-12)

Important Notes (Pastor William R. Horne):

Brief Background to 1 Corinthians: *1 Corinthians is one of what is believed to be 4 letters written from Paul to the church in Corinth (2 of which we have in our Bible and 2 that have been lost). Corinth was a major port city in the ancient world and had lots of temples to Greek and Roman Gods and was a big economic center. So Paul strategically came to Corinth as a missionary and spent a year and a half there living with the people. Many people gave their allegiance to Jesus and formed a church community. (Read in Acts 18). After Paul had moved on to other cities he received reports that the Corinthian Church was having big problems and conflict, thus he wrote this letter in response to those problems.*

In the Corinthians Church, the conflict appeared to be surrounding the strong (powerful, successful) discouraging the weak. Barclay comments, ‘Whenever we begin to think about our own importance in the Christian Church, the possibility of really Christian work is gone.’ (Dr. Moon said something similar in his sermon!)

Notes on Q1 Reading:

True Community is profoundly characterized by 1 Corinthians 12:26, **“If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”** How would it look for us to live this out in our church community? How would it look to live this out as a part of the larger Christian community across the globe? What about in the other human communities we inhabit?

Concerning 13:11-12: **“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now, we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”** Often, you will hear verse 11 as a theme of a men’s conference or something similar telling men to “Man up!” (which I suppose has some merit), but when we make such a jump we miss the meaning and intent of Paul’s analogy. Verse 11 must be kept with verse 12. So let’s work backward, looking at verse 12. To help us understand this verse we need to understand that mirrors were not the same quality as our mirrors today. We have perfected the technology to make the reflection in modern-day mirrors to be near perfect. When you wake up in the morning and look in the mirror you see can see yourself with almost perfect clarity. This was not so in Paul’s day where a mirror was like a polished piece of brass or bronze. You could see your reflection in it, but it wasn’t very clear. Walking with Jesus today is like looking in that polished bronze; we can see what the Kingdom of God looks like but it’s fuzzy and not perfectly clear. Now, let’s return to verse 11. When you are a child you can look at adults and understand in part what it means to be an adult, but you don’t REALLY know until you, yourself have become an adult. A child can look at parents and

understand in part what it means to raise children, but they don't REALLY know what it is like until they are a parent. A child can look at a married couple and understand in part what marriage is like, but they don't REALLY know what it is like until they are married. We are the same when it comes to our walk with Jesus today. We can understand many things in part, but we don't know fully until King Jesus returns and the Kingdom of God is in full. Thus, we walk by faith, not by sight, as Paul says elsewhere.

Ideas for Q2:

- Authentic Relationship Building across barriers (We have stated this many times)
- Valuing other people's voices, experiences, and thoughts.
- Wisdom of James "Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak, Slow to Anger." (AGAIN!)
- Confession of Wrong, and Forgiveness when Wronged
- Practicing Grace and Gratitude at all times. (Paul starts all of his letters first with give grace and expressing thanksgiving. This starting posture changes everything!)
- Truth-Telling & Promise Keeping (Love delights in Truth 1 Cor 13:6)
- Reading Books from Authors outside your cultural context.
- Self-reflection on how we view certain people in our life - do we view them as commodities (only good for my gain), competition (or enemies!), or do we value them as the Image of God and pursue a depth of community with them.

Reflections on Q4: Living in and pursuing an authentic community is hard work. In seasons of this work, we will experience the fullness of beauty the community has to offer, and in other seasons it will be really difficult and easy to give up. When I reflect on the idea that I am "fully known" by God, I am overwhelmed by the fact that God knows all of my thoughts, motives, and emotions behind my actions (both when they are good and bad) and loves me in the midst of them. God understands me like no one else (including myself) does as the Creator King who knows His creation. This thought, alongside the hope that we will one day know God fully (face to face), rejuvenates me in the work to pursue authentic human community, even in the difficult seasons.

Sermon Summary (Elder Yin):

最有效的疫苗

Moon, 1/31/21

“就如身子是一个，却有许多肢体；而且肢体虽多，仍是一个身子；基督也是这样。我们不拘是犹太人，是希腊人，是为奴的，是自主的，都从一位圣灵受洗，成了一个身体，饮于一位圣灵。身子原不是一个肢体，乃是许多肢体。

你们就是基督的身子，并且各自作肢体。”

哥林多前书 12:12-14, 27 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/1co.12.12-14,27.cunpss-神>

“爱是恒久忍耐，又有恩慈；爱是不嫉妒；爱是不自夸，不张狂，不做害羞的事，不求自己的益处，不轻易发怒，不计算人的恶，不喜欢不义，只喜欢真理；凡事包容，凡事相信，凡事盼望

，凡事忍耐。爱是永不止息。先知讲道之能终必归于无有；说方言之能终必停止；知识也终必归于无有。”

哥林多前书 13:4-8 CUNPSS-神

<https://www.bible.com/48/1co.13.4-8.cunpss-神>

教会是基督的身体，你是基督的身体。耶稣寻找人来做因为祂已升天，教会就是基督的身体每个肢体为主做工。弗2：10，

有人这样描述肢体的重要性：

虽然神没有手但神用我们的手来做祂的工作

虽然神没有脚但神用我们的脚来带领人走祂的路

虽然神没有声音但神用我们的声音来告诉人祂如何为我们而死，

虽然神不能直接帮助他人但祂用我们来帮助别人来到祂的身旁。

我们是主的身体。通过我们完成神的工作。需要合一才能一起做工，如身体健康，相互可以配合

，我们需要相互，不可能单一。如果脚和嘴争论说因为我的行走去食物所在处，你才能用嘴吃，如果嘴说我吃了脚才能走。这样的争吵会有很大的伤害。有效教会要一起合作

彼此尊重，不能只强调自己的重要性。看别人比自己彼此关心，互相帮助，不要只顾自己还要顾别人。

弗4：3“用和平彼此联络，竭力保守圣灵所赐合而为一的心。”

建立一个充满爱心的基督社群需要相互帮助

提前3：14-15“我指望快到你那里去，所以先将这些事写给你。倘若我耽延日久，你也可以知道在神的家中当怎样行。这家就是永生神的教会，真理的柱石和根基。”

哥前13，最好的疫苗，是爱

“我若能说万人的方言，并天使的话语，却没有爱，我就成了鸣的锣，响的钹一般。我若有先知讲道之能，也明白各样的奥秘，各样的知识，而且有全备的信，叫我能够移山，却没有爱，我就算不得什么。我若将所有的周济穷人，又舍己身叫人焚烧，却没有爱，仍然与我无益。爱是恒久忍耐，又有恩慈；爱是不嫉妒；爱是不自夸，不张狂，不做害羞的事，不求自己的益处，不轻易发怒，不计算人的恶，不喜欢不义，只喜欢真理；凡事包容，凡事相信，凡事盼望，凡事忍耐。”

哥前13是最重要的是爱。

小测验

1-无法做到。2-偶尔可以做到。3-可以做到但仍要加强，4-每次都能做到。

爱是恒久忍耐：我不易被激怒，当对方无法达到我预期的样子，我能控制我的情绪。

爱是恩慈：不论断

爱是不嫉妒：不贪别人的东西

爱是不自夸：不觉得自己比别人重要，常考虑别人的利益

爱是不作恶：以礼相待

爱是不求自己的益处：不是自私的。为别人成功而欣慰

爱是不轻易发怒：尽量理解人家，当人家伤害了你。

爱是不计算人的恶：不记念人家对你的亏欠，不喜欢不义，而是为了真理来行事

爱是不喜欢不义，只喜欢真理

爱是凡事包容：不喜欢假消息和谣言

爱是凡事盼望：相信人能因着神而改变。

爱是永不止息：求神带领你到底。

“一主，一信，一洗，一神，就是众人的父，超乎众人之上，贯乎众人之中，也住在众人之内。”

以弗所书 4:5-6

医治分裂，请主进入社会，圣灵是最好的疫苗对治疗病毒和政治纷争。只有神能给。

教会需要爱的疫苗，教会如分裂和仇恨就不能送出爱的疫苗。我们需要这疫苗，然后能把这疫苗给外人，你们彼此相爱人就知同心不是完全一样，但总有爱使我们一起，

我们在灵里合一，在主里合为一

同心求圣灵的向导，使我们众人合一

世人知道我们是基督徒

因着爱世人知道基督徒是因着爱

当授受神爱的疫苗后，国家人民得医治，主的身体会发光
结语

圣，法兰西施祷告

Lord make Me an instrument of Your peace

Where there is hatred let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness joy.

O Divine master grant that I may

Not so much seek to be consoled as to console

To be understood, as to understand.

To be loved. as to love

For it's in giving that we receive

And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned

And it's in dying that we are born...

To eternal life.

Aaamen...

The Most Effective Vaccine

Dr Ted moon

I Corinthians 12:12-14,27; 13:4-8

1cor 12 is the most beautiful picture of the most united church

Church as the body of Christ

We are the body

Jesus is the light of the world, so are we

Since Jesus's physical body is not at this world, He needs substitutes. Literally WE are the body, His hands and feet, his voices

Ephesians 2:10 we are God's workmanship

The joy and privilege of being Christian, is to do His work on earth.

What the church needs:

We need each other, each part does his part well

We are to respect each other, in humility, think others better than us

We are to sympathize with each other, support each other, look into other's interest as well.

Ephesians 4:3 peace through HS, make every effort to continue together

It takes god's power and our efforts to produce a loving Christian community

Many people lack of ability to communicate in society and at church, NT is filled with instructions

1 Timothy 3:14-15

The vaccine we need: 1 corinthians 13:4-8 without love, all gifts are useless.

1. Dismal failure
2. Sometimes but inconsistent
3. Good but still needs improvement
4. Strong and consistent

Quiz 1-4

Love is patient: slow to anger

Love is kind: not judging, healing present

Love is not envious: not to desire what others have,

Love is not proud: self importance, concern about other's well being

Love doesn't dishonor others: courteous respectful

Love is not selfish: happy for other's success

Love is not easily angered: try to understand others when they hurt me

Love keeps no records of wrong

Love Not delight in evil delight in truth

Love always trusts: disregard rumors and gossip

Love always hopes: to believe people can change with the help of god

Love always perseveres: to pray for strength to continue to the end

Ephesians 4:5-6

What do we need to heal our marriage, our nation?

Let God's love come to our hearts, apply not only to those who don't agree with us but also to ourselves

Only HS can heal the dividing virus, our love is the vaccine,

Government can't give, they don't have. God's love fills the syringe,
So the world can look the followers of Christ, see the difference in us, how we stay together
despite our differences in views
One lord, one faith, one hope, one baptism, one god!!
So church has the vaccine for division and anger. We can't offer this to the world, because the
church is divided!
John 13:34-35 if you love one another, the world will see you are my disciples

Unity doesn't mean uniformity
We will agree to disagree, but always resolve to love, unite to serve.

Hymns:
We are one in the spirit

Prayer of st Francis

City on the hill
Light in the darkness
Church has the power to change the world