

GOD HATES

- ① HAUGHTY EYES
- ② A LYING TONGUE
- ③ HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD
- ④ A HEART THAT DEVICES WICKED PLANS
- ⑤ FEET THAT RUN TO EVIL
- ⑥ A FALSE WITNESS THAT BREATHES OUT LIES
- ⑦ ONE WHO SOWS DISCORD AMONGST PEOPLE

PROVERBS 6 : 16 - 19

Great Swamp Baptist Church
February 23, 2025

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Chuck Scoggins

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery Workers

For Today:
Pat & Chyleen

Next Sunday 03/02:
Audrey & Melissa I



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Kim & Richard

Next Sunday 03/02:
Juliette & Mike W

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Chuck Scoggins



Phone: 843-816-0483

**NEXT WEEK'S
DEACON:**
Calvin Bryan



*From
the
Pastor's
desk:*



Love Is
I Cor 13:1-13

Introduction

Tammy and I went to Kansas City, Missouri to be a part of a celebration of life of a very sweet lady that at was a big part of my past church. Well it just happened to be that this celebration of life happened to be the week of the 59th Super Bowl. And of course one of the teams in the game was the K.C. Chiefs. And boy, was it obvious that the people of the Kansas City area really love their Chiefs.

Now the evidence and demonstration of the peoples love for their Chiefs was all over the place. Every advertisement on TV somehow connected back to the Chiefs. Every local channel's news focused on nothing but the game and specifically the Chiefs' roll in it. Practically every person in the Kansas City area were wearing K.C. Chief memorabilia. Chief flags were flown all over the city. We even saw a water tower that was totally lit up in the K.C. Chief's red color.

Now all the evidence and demonstration of Kansas City's love for the Chiefs would convince any strangers visiting in town that week that indeed this city loves their team. In like manner if a stranger visited in our homes, or in our church, or in our individual presence, would our home, our church, or our individual presence clearly demonstrate to them that indeed and in fact that we love one another as Christ loved us?

Our famous text for this message will reveal what it means to love as Christ loved us, and how to carry it out. In our last message simply called a new command we discovered that we have a face and a name to put with how we are to love one another. That face and name is of course our Lord Jesus Christ who commanded that we love one another as He loved us.

Well this chapter will show us that by God's leadership that as Christians we can love one another as Jesus loved us. I simply have titled this message, "Love is."

I. First, let's notice that love is the priority (vs 1-3)

This chapter of love is sandwiched between two chapters dealing with the topic of spiritual gifts. Chapter 12 deals with what the spiritual gifts are and how that we have obtained these. Then chapter 14 is about the abuse of our spiritual gifts, particularly, the gift of tongues. The chapter reveals that many in the Church at Corinth were using the gifts for unspiritual purposes. For they were using them, what appears to be, for showy purposes, or if you would selfish reasons drawing attention to themselves. They also were attempting to use their gifts by fleshly means.

So the Apostle Paul under the Holy Spirits direction placed this amazing chapter on love between those two chapters to say to the church at Corinth and to all of us who are true believers in Christ to say that you can have spiritual gifts, and sometimes many of them, but still be unspiritual if you are using them for the wrong reason and by the wrong means. That's what these first three verses are referring to.

These first three verses mention several of the spiritual gifts found in Chapter 12 such as the gift of tongues, prophecy, knowledge, faith, and self-sacrificing. All these gifts are good and are granted to us by God through the Holy Spirit. But when we attempt to use these gifts for selfish and self-gaining purposes then we're already forgot what the gifts were given to us for. They were given to us so that we can build up one another in the body of Christ and that can only be accomplished when our priority above all else is to love one another as Christ loved us. Thus our God given gifts are without value in the sight of God if they are not motivated by God's love in us and through us.

I've often met Christians that I've been able to clearly say without a doubt that they are extremely gifted with Biblical knowledge, or that they have been gifted to preach with such skill as never heard before, and that list goes on. But after I've often personally encountered those persons on a one-on-one basis I would often walk away wondering how could someone have such skills and talents but yet show such little love. May our blessed God through His Holy Spirit help us to prioritize love, His love above all else.

II. Second, let's notice that love is practical (vs 4-7)

Since as point one shows that love is to be our priority then it must result in effecting our behavior, our actions and our practices. That's what the verses for this second point are clearly teaching us, that love is an action and not merely words. It's one thing to claim it's my priority but it's a whole different thing to flesh it out. So the apostle Paul shows us just how we do that and what it looks like to love as Christ has loved us.

There are several things mentioned that we should do, and some things mentioned that we shouldn't do to show the love of Christ through us. Most of the actions and behaviors mentioned are in no need of much explanation. There are things mentioned though to remind us that we must under the Spirit's leadership put into practice in order to show the love of Christ in action in our lives. So I will focus a little more here on a couple of them but then just mostly point out, and emphasize all the rest of them to remind us we are called to put them into practice.

First we are called to patience. Dr. John MacArthur in his commentary on these verses said this about love being patient, "Love's patience is the ability to be inconvenienced or taken advantage of by a person over and over again yet not be upset or angry. Chrysostom, the early church father, said, "It is a word which is used of the man who is wronged and who has it easily in his power to avenge himself but will never do it.' Patient never retaliates."

A second action that a Christian should take in order to love as Christ loved us is to show kindness. As Paul says, "Love is kind." Paul is not merely referring a good feeling toward others. Rather he referring to the fact that those good and kind feelings become acts of goodness and kindness. Another verse that Paul wrote in another of his letters give a good summation of what it means to show kindness. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Eph 4:32).

Paul also reveals that there are certain actions that we don't do in order to show the love of Christ through our lives. We are not to envy, boast, be proudful, dishonor others, be selfish, be angry and keep records of wrong. All of these just mentioned tragically is what we often find to be the focus of our lives. May our blessed God help us to put these practices away.

Paul closes out this section by pointing out that when practicing love there are some things that we should always do. We should always despise evil but rejoice in truth. Love and truth work hand in hand. This means that love will always believe in, stand for and promote God's holy word from which we find absolute truth the truth that will set you free and helps you to love in the Christian manner.

He also reminds us that Christ's love through us will always protect, trust, hope and persevere. May our blessed Lord practice His love through us that others may see Christ in us.

III. Third, let's notice that love is persistent (vs 8-13)

In this final set of verses in this amazing love chapter the emphasis is the fact that love persists. Paul reveals the fact that many things, even things that are important to us as Christians in this life are going to one day cease to be. Things such as prophecies, the gift of tongues, knowledge and the list goes on.

However there is one thing for sure that though many of those necessary things will one day cease love never will, "Love never fails." We find this to be true throughout the writings of God's word. From one end of it to the other He has forever constantly reminded His people of His forever abiding love.

Therefore the emphasis on this point is that you and I must never stop loving one another because Christ's love for us is unending.

Conclusion

There's a simple chorus that we used to sing in my youth group when I was growing up. It went like this, "They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love." This chorus finds its basis from the very words of Jesus Christ our Lord. Speaking to His disciples Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35)

Jesus loves you,

Ralph Lee



A child's zip code should no longer determine whether they get a good education. With the State Senate overwhelmingly passing S. 62, the House of Representatives needs to pass S.62 and provide broad school choice, including education savings accounts, to give maximum opportunities for all children in South Carolina. Here is your opportunity to communicate your support for S. 62 with your elected representative in the SC House; your representative should hear from you immediately. Why? Those opposing S. 62 will be pull out all stops to see the bill die in the SC House.

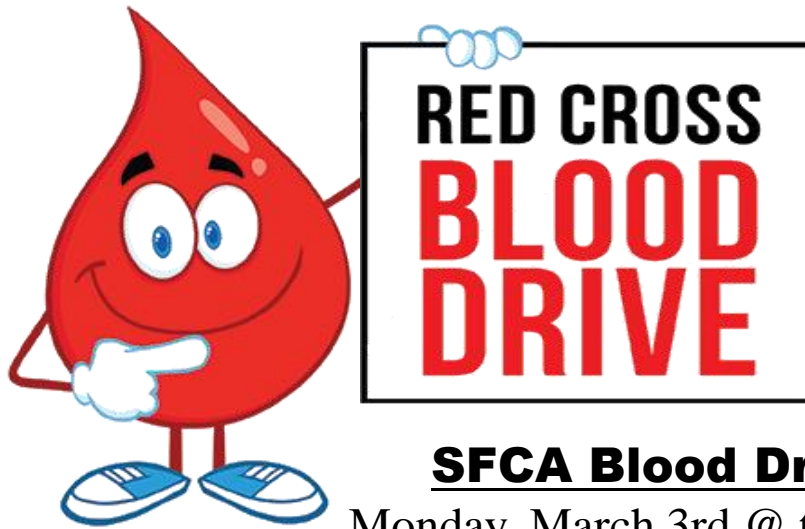
The link below is provided by Palmetto Family Council to make your communication process as simple as possible.

<https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/PFA/campaigns/120115/respond>

If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Carter or one of the secretaries in the SFCA office.



Monday, February 24th:
Dawson & Emma Cline



SFCA Blood Drive

Monday, March 3rd @ the MPB Building. Sign up online to reserve a spot early or walk-ins are always welcome!



Showing: **TBD**
Sunday, March 16th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:45 p.m.

Please bring finger foods for your family as well as to share with everyone else!
Tea and popcorn will be provided by the church.

Come watch an amazing movie!



(formerly Grandmothers Group)

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 3rd,
at 11:30 a.m. in the youth house.



**Monday. March 10th at
6:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, March
12th at 7:00 p.m.**



RADIANCE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

Bottles need to be turned no later
than today, Sunday, February 23rd.



Now Hiring

Apply Today

OPEN POSITION: Church Secretary

If you are interested in working as the church secretary, please send your resume to greatswampbc@gmail.com, give it to a deacon, or drop it off in the church office.



**Operation
Christmas Child**
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

It is time to start our year round collection again. It's amazing how fast time goes by when you're having fun!

Listed below is what is needed for February. Hygiene items. As of right now we have 750 shoeboxes to fill this year. You can also give a monetary donation if you do not want to shop.

Thank you!

- Wash Cloths***
- Toothbrushes***
- Combs/Hair Brushes for Boys & Girls***
- Head Bands, Hair Ties, Barrettes***



Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
\$5.00 per person or
\$15.00 per family of four or more.
No meal deliveries.



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served
from 8:30 a.m. to
9:00 a.m.
\$5.00 per person or
\$15.00 per family of
four or more.

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons
Youth Program*

Leadership

*President / Vice President of
the United States of America*

Bereavement

*Family of Joyce Scoggins
Garbade
Family of Richard Gray
(April Malphrus's Father)*

Unspoken

Hospitals

Other Health Needs

*Ralph Lee
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Arthur Pearson
Earl Dean Pope
Rachel Mixon
Maria Coles' Brother*

Surgery/Recovery

Cancer/Treatments

*Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 years old
(Leukemia)*

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Florence Place Assisted Living
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

*Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Barbara Mills
Kenny Smith
Shirley Malphrus*

*Tom Hinely
Ann Blocker
Red & Helen Malphrus
Diane Hannah
Ann Long
Donald Malphrus*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills - US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Pinehurst, NC.
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC
Schuyler Johnson - Basic Training Marines*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.....*jehu27@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meador.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carter.....*dcarter@sfcaweb.org*

Stewardship

TITHES	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus / Deficit
	<i>\$3,764.00</i>	<i>\$5,172.63</i>	<i>\$-1,408.63</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$146.80</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
PO Box 446
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday School.....9:15AM
Morning Worship.....10:30AM
Wednesday Night Service.....7:00PM

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631