

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

08/25/17 - Everything in Love

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1 Corinthians 16:5-18

Love is the defining quality of those belonging to Jesus: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35). Without the love of Christ we lose who we are and how we ought to live. When love is absent in the church, conflict can lead to crisis with disastrous consequence. This happened to the Christians gathered in Corinth, love was absent in their interactions with one another and it showed.

In Paul's closing remarks in 1 Corinthians 16 he challenges the church to "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong (1 Corinthians 16:13). A challenge that was significant given their situation. Without the love of Christ governing those actions, even good intentions could lose its desired intent.

In order for the church to be strong in the faith, they were to "do everything in love" (1 Corinthians 16:14). When we allow the love of Christ to govern our speech and actions, we will be able to stand firm in our faith without compromising our witness.

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