

Nothing but Love 1/11/26

I Corinthians 13:1-3

My message today is all about nothing! When I start this sentence put the slide on screen - It should start blank and then pop up to say nothing. If powerpoint won't work, do it as a black slide and a 2nd with the word Nothing. I want to word to come up when I say nothing.

I. NOTHING TO SAY I Corinthians 13:1

A. If you have nothing good to say, then don't say anything. Ephesians 4:29

1. Speak the truth in love (receive it in love)

Ephesians 4:15,25 *Hold place*

2. "This is going to hurt me more than it hurts you!"

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. There is a lot that love says and there is a lot that love does not say!

3. What good is the truth without love Job 6:24-26

B. Not in bitterness and anger Ephesians 4:30-32

1. Choose your words wisely Proverbs 25:11-13

a) Apples of gold Proverbs 15:23 When you get it right!

b) Ask God to give a golden tongue Isaiah

50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

2. No worms **Worm in Apple - Worse half-worm!**
Hebrews 12:15 (Ephesians 4:30-32) Mark
7:21-23 And he said, That which cometh out of
the man, that defileth the man. For from within,
out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts,
adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts,
covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness,
an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All
these evil things come from within, and defile the
man.

C. Uncertain Sounds I Corinthians 14:7-11 **Charlie
Brown “Blah-blah”**

II. KNOW NOTHING I Corinthians 13:2

A. Should know it all Proverbs 1:2-7 vs. 7 The fear of
the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools
despise wisdom and instruction.

1. Seek knowledge (**Base of the pyramid**) Proverbs
4:5-9

2. Read all the books and listen all sermons
Ecclesiastes 12:9-13

B. Don't be a “Know-it-all” I Corinthians 8:1-3 **This is
what causes the most conflicts on both sides. “I know,
I know!” or the attitude that I know better than you.
BOTH SIDES**

C. Move the mountain Matthew 17:19-21

● I Corinthians 13:2 **Remove** = “**Pick up and
move**”

- Matthew 17:20 Remove = “move your feet”
Nothing wrong with asking God to remove your problem (Paul prayed 3x in II Corinthians 12:7-10), but sometimes what God wants is for us to:
 1. Get over it! Joshua 14:12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day... if so be the LORD *will be* with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said. Sometimes you just need to conquer the mountain and get over it! Best way? **Switchbacks!**
 - Takes a lot of forward movement to make a little upward progress.
 - Sometimes you even have to go down in order to go up!
 2. Go around it! Isaiah 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.
 - You don't have to climb it just because it is there!
 - We make a lot of molehills into mountains.
 3. Go through it Pali, Like Like, H3 Look for the light at the end of the tunnel. Psalm 119:105 Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

4. That mountain is yours! Zechariah 4:6-7 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This *is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof with* shoutings, *crying*, Grace, grace unto it. **The Little Train That Could** “I think I can. I hope I can! I know I can”

III. NOTHING TO GIVE I Corinthians 13:3

A. For salvation Matthew 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

1. Not your Religion, Rituals or Righteousness
Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy

he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

2. Not silver or gold I Peter 1:18-19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.
3. God gave it all John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

B. NOTHING IS SOMETHING ONLY WHEN IT IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE John 15:4-5 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

1. We are nothing Psalm 144:3-4 Lord, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him!

Man is like to vanity: his days are as a shadow that passeth away. “0” with the ought rubbed out

a) We like to think we are something Galatians 6:3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

b) It is only God who makes us something Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

2. Where you place your life determines if it counts for anything. Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

a) Put God 1st Mark 12:29-30 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

1 = God, 0 = self 0 before 1 = 0, 0 after 1 = 10

b) Others second before yourself Mark 12:31
And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.
Our greatness comes by putting ourselves last Luke 22:24-26

3. All of the glory belongs to the “1” Write a check for 0, 2 0’s, 3 0’s, 4 0’s, 5 0’s – Put a 1 in front of all of those 0’s! Glory!

a) God is the “1” who strengthens us
Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

b) How do you increase nothing? Can’t increase it by adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing! Math signs John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.