

Sunday, June 24, 2018 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon: Evidence

Read I Corinthians 13:1-12



I saw a sign one time that asked, “If you were on trial for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to convict you?” Jesus said it was by the way we love that people will know we are His disciples.



Love is patient. It is hard to be patient. We do not live in times that teach patience. We expect things to be quicker and quicker. We get used to instant answers. We microwave our food. We want people to be instant in what they do. If we are driving and the person ahead of us waits for a moment when a light turns green we get upset. If the car in front of us goes below the speed limit we get irritated. When we want someone to do something we get irritated

if it is not done right away.



Love is kind. Love looks for ways to show kindness. Instead of being self centered we look out for others. It is easy to get caught in the trap of self-centeredness. We even get told we deserve to be self-centered. We are told to look out for number one. If we do not do it for us who will. This is not the attitude of Jesus. Jesus came as a servant. He gave up His position to power to come to the earth and die for us. No one can be less self-centered than that. He became a servant knowing He would die. He shows doing for others instead of Himself.



Love is not jealous. Our jealousy comes because we want to be sure to get what we deserve. We want people to recognize how great we are. We find it offensive if someone gets more recognition than we do, or especially if we feel they are being given recognition for something we did and we deserve to be recognized for. Jealousy is wanting to see that we are advanced. Remember that the original sin was Adam and Eve wanting to be equal to God.



Love is not conceited. We like to have people talk about how great we are. To praise us for our intelligence and skill. That should not be our driving force in our lives. We need to do what we do for Christ, not for ourselves. Jesus tells us to do our good works to bring glory to the Father.



Close to not being conceited is that love is not proud. Pride is realizing who we are. It is not showing humility if we act like we cannot do things if we can. There are times we may do that looking for someone to argue with us to build up our ego. Jesus did not need people to tell Him how great He was. He knows it. Pride is a big trap for us. We think more of ourselves than we should.



Love is not rude. Rudeness is easy. We can do it without thinking. We do not pay attention to the people around us. I think a lot of the times that we are rude we have no idea that we are doing it. We get so caught up with ourselves that we do not pay attention to the people around us. Try looking at people in a store and see how many people make contact with others. We live in our bubbles and so it is hard to show love for others.



may even be correct at times.

Love does not insist on its own way. We get to the point where we think others need to do what we want. We need to be willing to let others have their way. It can be difficult when a group is willing to let others have their way. We used to have trouble in seminary picking out a place to eat. We can realize that there are people who have ideas that are different than ours and that they



others like to be around.

Love is not irritable. We can do all of the right things, but not have the right attitude. We can give in to others but if we are not doing it out of love we are going to be irritable about it. Love is the right actions with the right attitude. We can give in, but if we are going to let it make us grouchy to be around then we are not really showing love. People who are irritable are not the people



The wrong motivation can cause us to be resentful. Maybe we do not act irritable but we are not getting our way and we resent it. Our attitude is that this is fine for now, but we will turn it around later. I will let people know how they have taken advantage of us.



Love also wants the best for all. We do not rejoice in people who do wrong. To see people do wrong makes us feel superior. We like to see others mess up. Instead we root for others to see them do the best they can.



Jesus is the Lord. To share with Him let us see how He shows us to live.