

# Sermon Notes

## God's Secret Weapon Part 2

### January 13<sup>th</sup> – January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- **God's Secret Weapon:** God's Secret Weapon? His love for us all!!!
- **Part 2: Unified by Mission**
  - o The love of God for us not only brings the family of God together, it unites us in the mission of sharing God's love with the world.
- Case Study on the Apostle Paul:
  - o Paul, formerly called Saul, was brought into the family of God by the love of God.
    - Before that he was about religion and violent division over religious ideas.
    - But, he got saved and was then about bringing believers together. (1 Corinthians, last week)
  - o Paul also fully understood the mission.
    - Last week: love one another.
    - This week: love your neighbor/enemy.
  - o Our mission is twofold:
    - 1) Live out abundant life in Christ as an example.
      - This can involve suffering, etc. The deeper things are shown in hardship.
    - 2) Present a compelling Gospel message to the world.
      - Tact is ok too. We win this battle with wisdom, not just boldness.
  - o Love, even sacrificial love, comes from God. **John 3:16**
    - Paul understood the value of others and what was done for him. **1 Timothy 1:12-17**
      - Paul received from God (v14) grace, faith, and love. (drive pulley)
      - Paul was called into service (v12) to offer these things to the world. (next pulley)
  - o All believers, in our own particular ways, are unified by this same mission.
- Case Study on Caleb and Joshua:
  - o How do we stay unified by mission when things inevitably don't go right??
    - The spies go into the land. **Numbers 13:17-21**
    - The spies bring back a report. **Numbers 13:26-33**
      - Now there is great conflict!! Church is easy until there is conflict...
        - o Caleb (Joshua, Moses, Aaron) wanted to take the land. Fulfill the mission.
        - o The rest were afraid of the giants. Fair enough I guess...
    - Conflict escalates. **Numbers 14:1-4**
    - Caleb and Joshua make a motivational speech! **Numbers 14:5-9**
    - The people don't take it well and God pronounces judgment. **Numbers 14:10-12**
    - Moses talks God out of that...but...**Numbers 14:20-25**
  - o How did Caleb and Joshua handle this rejection, rebellion, and failure by the people?
    - Leave and form their own denomination that would have great faith to take the land??
    - NO!! In fact, the rebellious cowards actually did that...in continued rebellion.
    - Joshua and Caleb actually stayed with the group, patiently endured 40 years of wandering in the desert, AND THEN went into the promised land.
  - o Lesson: When things don't go your way, even when you are right, don't just run away.
    - There is a strength to face the giants. And there is a strength to endure the desert.
      - Both were based on faith in what God had promised, not themselves.
- I believe we are called together for a mission: to bring the love of God to everyone in this world.
  - o I can't complete this mission. You can't. But if all of us see the mission, have faith in the power of God, and work together, we can actually get somewhere.
  - o What if we shared the heart of the Father relating to **John 3:16**?
    - Then love of God in us would unify us on mission.
- Get prayer by emailing the prayer team: [prayer@goodhope.ag](mailto:prayer@goodhope.ag)