

1 Cor 13 Love One Another (Coalface 9) Fintry, 20/11/2005, am

- A Church at the Coalface is one where...
... we love one another

What can we depend upon?

- The six things in the presentation slides are:
 - 1. Rocks, Assynt - some of the oldest rocks found on earth are Lewisian Gneiss
 - 2. People, they get old
 - 3. This place of worship - original cross from the 1950's
 - 4. Jupiter - the age of the solar system
 - 5. the Sun - even older than the planets
 - 6. a Galaxy - even older than the stars it contains
- None of those things will last forever!

Love never fails?

- Paul says "love never fails" (v.8)
 - what does he mean?
(interactive!)
- What love is Paul talking about?
 - talking about how we treat one another, about how we exercise our gifts, about the [way in which we do things](#), not just what we do
- **love** for the early Christians meant love like Jesus:
 - love lavished on others without thought to whether they are worthy or not
 - it comes not from the fact that what is loved is lovely (people aren't!) but from the nature of the lover, Christ in us
 - Christians who have experienced Jesus' love for us (while still sinners, Rom 5:8) have been transformed by the experience
 - now we see people as those whom God loves, and so we love too...
- This is the way God operates:
 - and it is the way of heaven!
 - when we are in heaven, the certainties of this universe - sun, planets - will be gone
 - when we are in heaven the way we do things now - the prophetic words, the speaking in tongues, the limits of our understanding of God through the Bible - these will be gone
- **But love will remain** - for God and for one another

How will we now love one another?

- *Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

