

# The South Florida Avenue **MESSENGER**

**A Friendly Church With a Vital Message Proclaiming the Unsearchable Riches of the Lord Jesus.**  
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## ELDERS

David Anderson  
Kenny French  
Bobby Sheumaker

## DEACONS

John McShane  
Stacey Paulin  
Jimmy Sweeney

## MINISTER

Hiram Kemp  
(386) 405-5372

## ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty  
(740) 801-1106

## SECRETARIES

Michelle Paulin / Dee Parramore

## OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

## SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

## HOME OF

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since 1969

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Dub Hill.....Russia  
Don Iverson.....India  
Marc Veary.....Malawi, Africa  
Graham McDonald.....Scotland  
J. Paguaga.....Honduras, C.A.  
Joey Treat.....Pacific Islands  
Ted Wheeler.....Ghana, W.A.

## EMAIL

[SFA.church@gmail.com](mailto:SFA.church@gmail.com)

## WEB PAGE

[www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com](http://www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com)



IN  
**SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY

Sundays @ 8:30 a.m. Check local listings

## First Corinthians 13

# The Cessation of Miraculous Gifts

Brian R. Kenyon

Paul's most comprehensive treatise on miraculous spiritual gifts is found in First Corinthians 12-14. In the midst of this section, the Holy Spirit inspired the apostle to discuss the importance, characteristics, and duration of love (1 Cor. 13:1-13). Love was a key element in solving their division problems, which, in part, were fueled by wrong attitudes toward miraculous gifts. In pointing out the duration of love, Paul stated the cessation of miraculous gifts.

## Overview of the Passage

Three preliminary truths must be understood to help us know the meaning of First Corinthians 13:8-13. First, it begins and ends with "love" ("Love [charity, KJV] never fails ... the greatest of these is love [charity, KJV]," 1 Cor. 13:8-13). The Corinthians acted as if the miraculous gifts were all that mattered, but Paul showed that love is much more important than miraculous gifts. Second, there is an important comparison between "that which is in part" and "that which is perfect" (1 Cor. 13:9-10). Thus, to whatever aspect the "in part" refers, it must be the same as the "perfect." Paul was not comparing, as it were, "apples with oranges," but "in part" apples with 'perfect' apples." Third, there is an important contrast between "now" and "then." What was "now" (in Paul's day) "in part" would at a future time (from Paul) be "perfect." Whenever this "perfect" would come, there would no longer be a need for the "in part." Again, whatever the "in part" represents must be the same as the "perfect" (just to a lesser degree) or else the comparison is meaningless.

## Miraculous Gifts Were to Be Temporary

Although love would never come to an end, Paul said that "prophecies ... will fail," "tongues ... will cease," and miraculous "knowledge ... will vanish away" (1 Cor. 13:8). The terms "will fail [be done away, NAS; pass away, ESV]" and "will vanish away [be done away, NAS; pass away, ESV]" come from the same Greek word (*katargeo*), which means to pass away, or cease. Later in this same context, the word is translated "will be done away" (1 Cor. 13:10) and "put away [did away, NAS; gave up, ESV]" (1 Cor. 13:11). The term "will cease" is from a Greek word (*pauo*) that means to stop, cease; be done with (Eph. 1:16; Col. 1:9). Clearly, these miraculous gifts, and representatively all miraculous gifts, were to cease at some point in Paul's future. Note that "tongues," which the Corinthians seemed to value the most highly, were dropped by Paul in the next verse.

*(continued on page 2)*

“For we know in part and we prophesy in part” (1 Cor. 13:9) indicates that the miraculous gifts are represented by the “in part.” As the illustrations in verses 11-12 will indicate, these miraculous gifts have to do with intellectual understanding of God’s will. Before going further, let us note the way in which the “in part” is partial. As some have pointed out, Paul must be referring to partial quantity rather than partial quality. Every piece of knowledge and prophesying is “perfect,” or complete, in quality, but the miraculous knowledge and prophesying that came in the first century was not “perfect,” or complete, in quantity. For example, the Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5-7) is only part of God’s revelation. It is “perfect,” or complete, in quality. It is inspired and inerrant in what it says. However, it is not “perfect,” or complete, in quantity because it does not contain everything we need to know concerning Christ, His church, and salvation.

“But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away” (1 Cor. 13:10). The word “perfect” (from *telios*), when referring to things, as in this context, refers to that which has attained its goal and is thus complete, or perfect. From Paul’s perspective, whenever this “perfect” comes, then the miraculous gifts (the “in part” of 1 Cor. 13:9) would cease to exist. The question now is: To what does the “perfect” refer? The only answer that is consistent with the text and the total teaching of the Bible is that the “perfect” refers to the complete written revelation of God (cf. Jas. 1:25).

## Miraculous Gifts Were Part of the Church’s Infancy

The two illustrations Paul gave shows that miraculous gifts were to give way to a more mature and universal way. First, the “in part” and “perfect” states are compared to the difference between childhood and manhood: “When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things” (1 Cor. 13:11). Paul was not talking about diapers or sippy cups, but about intellectual processes (“spoke ... understood ... thought”). A child learns to speak in a little-by-little, piecemeal fashion until he develops a full vocabulary and sense of grammar. So also was the revelation of God given, at first in small bits and pieces of information through miraculous gifts, but now “the faith” has been “once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3).

Second, the “in part” and “perfect” states are likened to seeing something obscurely versus seeing it plainly: “For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known” (1 Cor. 13:12). It is usually assumed that the “face to face” vision is of God or Jesus, but this cannot be correct. Neither the word “see,” nor the word “know” has an object. Both are used in an absolute sense so that whatever was to be seen clearly and known fully at a future time from Paul was already being seen obscurely and known partially by Paul and his readers. They did not have an initial vision of God’s person, but of God’s will. “Seeing” and “knowing” are used elsewhere to refer to the intellectual grasping of God’s will (cf. Mt. 13:13-17). Thus, the “face to face” viewing refers to a clear and full view of God’s will due to the “perfect” (complete in quantity) revelation of God as opposed to the dim and obscure viewing that the incomplete (in quantity) miraculous gifts provided. Again, these miraculous gifts only gave a small amount of information (“in part”) compared to the full (“perfect,” or complete) revelation of the completed New Testament!

## Conclusion

Miraculous gifts served their purposes of communicating the Gospel without error (1 Pet. 1:11-12), confirming the Gospel as it was being completed (Heb. 2:3-4 cf. Acts 14:3), and enabling the infant church to perform some of its tasks (1 Cor. 12:4-30). Today, these purposes are achieved through the written word of God. The complete Gospel is in our possession (cf. Jas. 1:21-25; 2 Pet. 1:3; Jude 3). The written word of God furnishes us “unto all good works” (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Do we believe and practice this? *AE Brian*

### ***Ephesians 4:11-16***

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; <sup>14</sup>that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup>but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—<sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

# SFA FAMILY MATTERS

## Prayer List

**Our Members:** Ginny Hamby, Ray Naschick, Wadi Khoury, Ron Ford (spine/neck), Jim Turner, Sharon Washington, Cierra Edwards (up-coming appt with neuro-surgeon in October) and Margaret Coone (spine surgery 9-4-19).

**Shut In Members:** Faith West, Carol Eason, Virginia Plumlee, Joyce Burbage and Cheryl Barker.

**Others:** Bob McAnally, Larry Laster, Chrissi Fuesner, Tonya Mathis, Chip Bolding, Tony Seibert, Neil Entwistle Sr., James and Ellen Shearer, Brinlee Alford, Derek Bush (Debbie Bush's son) and Tanya Irizarry (Jagie's sister-in-law).

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, August 24th:** Parents meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. If you cannot attend, please see Vince for the information.

**Sunday, August 25th:** Teachers' workshop in the library at 2:30 p.m. This is for all who will be teaching/helping next quarter.

**Tuesday, August 27th:** FSOP Ladies' class at 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, August 31th:** Ladies are invited to a baby shower in honor of Elly Enamorado (Brian & Jagie's daughter), at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship room. Please RSVP by signing the sheet on the bulletin board. Instead of a card, bring a book for baby and write a note inside to baby and parents. Small gifts or gift cards/money are encouraged as Elly will have limited space while traveling. See Kathy Sweeney if you'd like to part of the gift card/money tree.

**Monday September 2nd:** 27th Annual Labor Day Lectureship at the 6th St. church of Christ from 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 noon.

## Thank You's

South Florida Ave, in more ways than one, this Spiritual family has shown us how to truly practice love and kindness since the day we got here. You have done nothing less than encourage us, pray for us and love us. Not only in word, but in action too. Hiram and I pray for you all and thank God for you every night. The appreciation, love and gratitude this beautiful congregation show us daily is nothing short of amazing. Thank you for the housewarming gifts and having us. We are thankful to God for you and the journey ahead with you.

We love you all! Hiram, Brittani, Nadia and Andre.

To the brethren of South Florida Ave. I say thank you to all of you for your kindness and friendship during my stay here with my family. I have made friends with many of you and for that I am thankful. I look forward to seeing my family back in South Africa, as well as re-uniting with my dear brethren at the Keam Road church of Christ in East London, South Africa. May the Lord keep you strong and courageous as we serve the Living God.

Your sister in Christ, Pam Share.

## Visitors

Sherman Williams, Jerry Greene, Eric Bunch, Margaret Greeson, Barry Long, Kiana Santiago, Larry Laster, Tawana Burkett, Curt & Eve Moreloce, Summer Brady, Stacy Nickerson, Barbara Paulin, Tiffany Hash, Megan and Samuel, Edward Atkins, Gavin Williams, and Daniel Pingree.

### Communion to Shut-Ins

August 25 .....	R. Kenyon
Sept 1.....	Van Allen
Sept. 8 .....	Youth Group
Sept 15.....	R. Kenyon

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

### September

**Designated Elder During Services -** Kenny French

**Open/Close Building -** Jimmy Sweeney

Jimmy Sweeney .....	<b>Table</b> .....	Tyler Anderson
Neil Entwistle .....	<b>Assist</b> .....	Alex Parramore

**Sunday, August 25, 2019**  
9:30 A.M.

<b>Song at Bible Class</b> .....	Kyle Bingle
<b>Prayer</b> .....	Alex Parramore
<b>Sound Booth</b> .....	Phil Fife
<b>Announcements</b> .....	Matt Willcut
<b>Song Leader</b> .....	Jason Hendrix
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	Wayne Sherarer
<b>Sermon</b> .....	Hiram Kemp
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Jimmy Sweeney
<b>Greeters</b> .....	Walker/Melissa/Debra
<b>Cards</b> .....	Colby/Sawyer

6:00 P.M.

<b>Song Leader</b> .....	Kyle Williams
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	Bobby Sheumaker
<b>Sermon</b> .....	Hiram Kemp
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Jim Turner

**Wednesday, August 28, 2019**

<b>Song Leader</b> .....	Paul Romine
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	Jimmy Sweeney
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Phil Fife

### Sept. Clean-up David Williams team (R-Z)

*Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Stacey Paulin so he can get a replacement - (863) 838-8911*

**Sunday, September 1, 2019**  
9:30 A.M.

<b>Song at Bible Class</b> .....	Kyle Williams
<b>Prayer</b> .....	Ken Walker
<b>Sound Booth</b> .....	Tucker Sweeney
<b>Announcements</b> .....	Frank Hamby
<b>Song Leader</b> .....	Jason Hendrix
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	Matt Willcut
<b>Sermon</b> .....	Hiram Kemp
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Jim Turner
<b>Greeters</b> .....	McCarter/Williams
<b>Cards</b> .....	Klark Kenyon/Willcut

6:00 P.M.

<b>Song Leader</b> .....	David Williams
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	Josh Estridge
<b>Sermon</b> .....	Hiram Kemp
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Kyle Bingle

**Wednesday, September 4, 2019**

<b>Song Leader</b> .....	Jim Turner
<b>Opening Prayer</b> .....	David Deal
<b>Closing Prayer</b> .....	Frank Hamby

### ~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

<b>July 28</b> .....	<b>\$7,462.81</b>
<b>Aug 04</b> .....	<b>\$6,802.75</b>
<b>Aug 11</b> .....	<b>\$7,477.25</b>
<b>Aug 18</b> .....	<b>\$ 5,833.18</b>
<b>Contribution Average</b> .....	<b>\$ 6,548.56</b>



## Member Spotlight

# Ed Parramore



Ed was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. He has also lived in Tennessee and Virginia. As a child, he wanted to be an Olympic swimmer. His first job was as a lifeguard. He currently manages a restaurant. He has visited Mexico, Italy, Canada, and two Caribbean islands. He is good at managing people. He likes ice cream. In his free time, he likes golfing, skiing, and spending time with family. His most satisfying accomplishment is rearing two good boys. The best advice he's been given is "C students rule the world." He and his wife, Dee, have 2 sons.



## Member Spotlight

# Casey Paulin



Casey was born in Lakeland and grew up here. He has also lived in Idaho and Colorado. As a child, he wanted to be a zookeeper. His first job was at Chick-Fil-A. He is a student at FSOP, scheduled to graduate this December. He has done short-term missionary work in Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Peru. He is a good student. In his free time, he likes to do outdoorsy stuff like fishing, camping, and hiking. His most satisfying accomplishment is going to FSOP. The best advice he's been given is "Find a job/career that you enjoy."



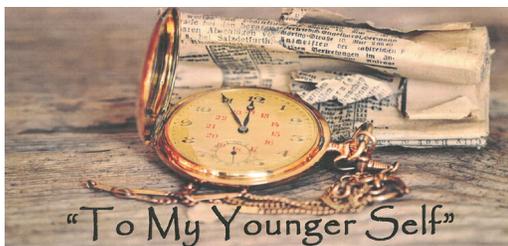
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Return Service Requested

The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .

**Make  
Plans  
Now  
To  
Attend  
These  
SFA  
Events!**

*Youth Seminar, Oct. 19, 2019*



**Calling All Youth (and Their Parents):** Our youth group is picking up great momentum in the Lord! We would love for you to join us in fellowship as the youth group (and their parents) serve God. Parents, come to the meeting here **August 24** @ 9:30 am. Let's serve God together!

## God's Plan of Salvation

**Hear God's word (Rom. 10:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)**  
**Believe in Jesus as God's Son (Jn. 8:24)**  
**Repent of Past Sins (Lk. 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30-31)**  
**Confess Faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 10:9-10)**  
**Be Baptized for Forgiveness of Sins (Acts 2:38)**  
**Live Faithfully by God's Word (Rom. 12:1-2),**  
**which includes assembling for worship (Jn. 4:24) & encouragement (Heb. 10:25)**