

## My Pot Boileth Over? I Corinthians 13:4

### Introduction:

- I. “The Chapter of Love” begins describing love by saying, “Love suffereth long.”
  - a. “Suffer”=“Allow” – i.e., takes a long time to boil.
  - b. So, before we can truly love, we must also take a long time to boil.
- II. There are several ways to keep a pot from boiling as quickly.
  - a. Decrease the flame under the pot.
  - b. Use a pot made of a material more resistant to heat..
  - c. Ventilate the pot or put something cooler into the water on the pot.
  - d. Dissolve something in the water (.25 lb of salt raises bp of water 36 degrees).
- III. How does this help us?
  - a. We cannot decrease the flame of trial and temptation. The others we can affect.

### Discussion:

- I. Use a heat-resistant material to build your life.
  - a. I Corinthians 3:11-15 – the building material makes all the difference. We must withstand the fire of trial.
  - b. Ephesians 6:14-17 – By building our lives with faith, we can *quench* the fiery darts of the wicked!
  - c. Colossians 3:8-10 – We are now made of something that is renewed after the creator!
- II. Ventilate to release the heat—communication is the best way!
  - a. I Peter 5:6-9 – This passage lists three ways we can ventilate!
    - i. Go to God – Philippians 4:6-7.
    - ii. Go to faith (Scripture) – James 1:2-4 – Burning wood always makes ashes.
    - iii. Go to others – Hebrews 10:24-26 – We keep one another from boiling over (*Provoke unto love*).
- III. Use salt to raise your boiling point.
  - a. Matthew 5:13 – We are the salt of the earth. We should keep others from boiling, rather than causing them to boil.
  - b. Colossians 4:6 – Our speech is seasoned. Therefore we do not boil or cause others to boil (cf. James 1:19-20).
    - i. This is part of walking in wisdom.
      1. Wisdom allows us to do what we might not think is possible.
        - a. Prov. 30:24-28 – self-provision, prevention, responsibility, and persistence make these animals stronger than they seem.

### Conclusion:

- I. I Corinthians 13 begins by saying that without love we are nothing. Paul continues by saying in verse four that, unless it takes a long time for us to boil, we cannot love.