

Sermon Notes

Our 2020 Vision: Love One Another

I John 3:10-24 (pew Bible pg. 1022)

John is known as “the apostle of love.” It is said that when John was an old man, when he couldn't walk anymore, they carried him in on a chair, and as they did he would exhort the brethren, saying, “Love one another.”

John's word to them was not new. He says, “this is the message you have heard from the beginning”. (I Jn. 3:11) It's the message that Jesus brought. It's the message of the whole Scriptures, that we're to *love* the brethren.'

The challenge for us today is that we've heard this before, many times before—as John is reminding his audience that they've heard it before. This brings with it the temptation that familiarity breeds contempt. ‘We've heard this message before,’ John says, but now we must pay attention to it, it's an important message for us as we begin this new year.

The Test of Love

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. (1 John 3:14)

The Illustration of Love

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. (I John 3:16)

The Assurance of Love

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; [20] for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. (1 John 3:19–20)

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Weekly Discipleship Guide

Sunday

In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:

I never knew: I was challenged:
I was reminded: I was convicted:
A question I still have: A truth I could share:

Know

Monday

Spend some time today doing the following:

Read the sermon passage again.
Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.
Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

Know > Be

Tuesday

In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:

Read the sermon passage again.
Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.
(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)
Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

Be

Wednesday

Think about this week's questions for group discussion:

In what ways are you in danger of living according to a culturally defined love rather than a biblically defined love?

Over the last year, how have you experienced biblical expressions of love within the context of the Body of Christ?

What commitment might you consider making for growing in this manner of love within the Body in 2020?

Be > Do

Thursday

In your journal, spend some time considering the following:

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?
How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

Do

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor
Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor
Jim Fulp: Counseling Pastor
Jason Engle: Pastor of Students & Discipleship
Katie Austin: Children's Ministry Coordinator

Contact Us

336.599.1982
westwoodroxboro@gmail.com
www.westwoodfamily.org

Upcoming Events

Jan 5 - Parent's Roundtable
Jan 8 - LifeGroup Soup Challenge & Kick-off
Feb 1 - Sportsman's Banquet

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