

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 31, 2025
“Living the Great Commandment: Our Neighbour As Ourselves”
John 13:31-35

“If you love only those who love you, why should you get credit for that? Even sinners love those who love them! And if you do good only to those who do good to you, why should you get credit? Even sinners do that much! And if you lend money only to those who can repay you, why should you get credit? Even sinners will lend to other sinners for a full return. Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid.” (Luke 6:27)

Jesus calls us to love with _____ abandon—even those who are _____ for us to love.

And God _____ brings these people into our lives, in order to teach us what _____ and _____ love is all about.

EGRP =
VDP =

“If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:18, 21)

Love is one of the most _____ and _____ words in our vocabulary.

GREEK LOVE

Agape =
eros =
philio =
storge =

BIBLICAL LOVE

#1. Love is a gift from _____.

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God....” (1 John 4:7)

#2. Love is a _____.

“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” (Colossians 3:14)

#3. Love is an _____.

“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth...” (1 Cor 13:4-7)

“No matter what I say or what I do or what I believe I’m bankrupt without love.” (1 Corinthians 13:3)

“I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other in the same way that I have loved you.” (John 13:34)

We’re not just called to love one another, we’re called to love each other in the _____ way Jesus love us.

Love = *ahava* = *hav* =

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35)

LOVING LIKE JESUS

#1. Loving our neighbour means _____ them the way Jesus accepts me.

“Everyone the father brings to me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me.” (John 6:37)

There is a big difference between _____ and _____. Jesus accepts us _____ and _____. However, that doesn’t mean He _____ of everything we do.

“Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you.” (Romans 15:7)

One of the ways we can show acceptance to others is to _____ to them—even when we don’t _____ with their opinion or life choices.

Action Step: This week I will show unconditional acceptance to:

_____.

#2. Loving our neighbour as ourselves means _____ others the way Jesus values me.

4 REALITIES

God _____ you.
Jesus _____ for you.
God put His _____ in you.
God wants to _____ forever.

“Are not five sparrows sold for two small coins? Even the hairs on your head have all been counted! Do not be afraid. You are worth far more than many sparrows.” (Luke 12:6)

VALUE IS DETERMINED BY :

• _____
“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...” (Psalm 139:13)

• _____
“God paid for you with the precious life blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.” (1 Peter 1:19)

“Treat everyone you meet with dignity.” (1 Peter 2:17)

We can't love without _____, without trying to see people for who they _____ are.

Action Step: This week I will affirm the value of:

_____.

#3. Loving our neighbour as ourselves means _____ in others the way Jesus forgives me.

“I am the God who forgives your sins and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you.” (Isaiah 43:25)

“Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes.” (Ephesians 1:4)

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” (Romans 8:1)

“This is the blood of my covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sin.” (Matthew 26:28)

“You must make allowance for each other's faults and forgive the person who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” (Colossians 3:13)

God has forgiven us of so _____—how can we _____ others what I so willingly _____ for ourselves?

Action Step: This week I will show forgiveness to:

_____.

#4. Loving our neighbour as ourselves means _____ in others like Jesus believes in me.

We're constantly bombarded by negative _____ everyday.

“If you love someone you will be loyal to them no matter what the cost. You will always believe in them. Always expect the best of them, and always stand your ground defending them. When everybody else believes the worst, love believes the best.” (1 Corinthians 13:7)

God wants us to expect the _____ of people—to believe in them. Jesus always _____ the good in people; He always saw who they truly were—and who they could _____. He saw their _____, not their _____; He saw their _____, not their _____.

“I want us to help each other with the faith that we have. Your faith will help me and my faith will help you.” (Romans 1:12)

“Let us consider how we may spur one another on to love and to good deeds.” (Hebrews 10:24)

Action Step: This week I will say; “I Believe in you,” to:

_____.

“Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” (James 2:8)