

Let the Church Arise: Commanded to Love

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – March 14, 2021

1 John 4:7-11, 19, 21

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12-18... 19 We love because he first loved us. 20... 21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1. GOD LOVES YOU

1 John 4:7-8

7 Dear friends... love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8... God is love.

Luke 7:47 (Jesus to woman that washed his feet with her tears)

47 "he who has been forgiven little loves little."

2. THE CROSS PROVES IT

1 John 4:9-10

9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love; not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Romans 5:8

8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Isaiah 64:6

6 ... all our righteous acts are like filthy rags...

3. WE ARE COMMANDED TO LOVE LIKE CHRIST

Matthew 22:36-40

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

John 15:12

12 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

1 John 4:7, 19, 21

7... let us love one another... 19 We love because he first loved us. 21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

• HOW DO WE LOVE LIKE CHRIST?

1 John 3:16

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Matthew 5:43-44

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...

Galatians 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love...

1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 13

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails... 13... these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.