

Sermon Notes & Discussion Questions



Date: September 7, 2025

Speaker: Pastor Bruce Ward

Sermon: Love Together

Scripture: 1 John 3:11-23

BIG IDEA: We're not just better when we're together — we're only truly _____ when we _____ one another.

1. LOVE IS THE _____ OF OUR FAITH

- “For this is the message... that we should love one another.” (1 John 3:11)
- Our love for one another should be the _____ of the church.
- Even the _____ love those who love them back (Luke 6:32–33).

2. LOVE _____ WHERE WE ABIDE

- “Whoever does not love abides in _____.” (1 John 3:14)
- Hatred and _____ life cannot coexist (1 John 3:15).
- What more closely characterizes your life: _____ or _____?

3. LOVE _____, IT DOESN'T JUST TALK

- “By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us...” (1 John 3:16)
- Count others more _____ than yourselves (Philippians 2:3–4).
- “Let us not love in word or talk but in _____ and in _____.” (1 John 3:18)

4. LOVE KEEPS THE _____

- “You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself.” (Mark 12:29–31)
- Believe in Jesus AND love one another (1 John 3:23).
- It's _____ to claim love for God without love for others.

SO WHAT?

- Examine your _____ – is there bitterness you need to release?
- Look for someone _____ and invite them in.
- Meet a _____ – love acts, it doesn't just talk.
- Expand your _____ list to include difficult people.
- Practice daily _____ – put others first.