

Pathway to Christlike Living – “Living Like Jesus Everyday”

Week 3: Loving Others Well—Even When It’s Costly or Uncomfortable Speaker: Jeremy Branham

Biblical love is not based on convenience, feelings, or personal benefit.

- Reflects sacrificial love of Christ by
- Choose to serve, forgive, and care for others. (John 13:34-35)

Love Is the Mark of a Disciple. (I John 4:7-12; Romans 12:9-10)

- Love is not optional for followers of Christ.
- Jesus gave us a new standard: love as He loved us.
- Our love authenticates our witness to the world.
- Discuss: Would people recognize me as a follower of Christ because of how I love?
- Discuss: Is my love visible in everyday interactions?

Jesus Modeled Costly Love. (Philippians 2:3-8; John 15:12-13; Romans 5:6-8)

- Jesus loved sacrificially, not selectively.
- He loved those who misunderstood, rejected, and betrayed Him.
- Biblical love often requires humility, inconvenience, and sacrifice.
- Jesus washed Judas’ feet knowing Judas would betray Him. (John 13).
- Discuss: What made Jesus’ love so different from ordinary human love?

Loving Others Often Means Choosing Comfort Last. (Luke 10:25-37; Hebrews 13:1-3; Galatians 6:2)

- Love interrupts our schedules.
- Love notices people others ignore.
- Love bears another person’s burdens.
- Compassion requires action.
- Examples: Listening when you’re busy, helping someone when you’re tired, giving generously even when resources are limited, serving without recognition)

Loving Difficult People (Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:17-21; Colossians 3:12-14)

- Jesus calls us to love enemies and pray for those who hurt us.
- Forgiveness does not always erase consequences, but it releases bitterness.
- Loving difficult people reflects God’s character.
- Love does not always mean agreement or enabling unhealthy behavior.
- Biblical love includes truth, wisdom, and healthy boundaries.

Love Requires Action, Not Just Emotion. (I John 3:16-18; James 2:14-17; Luke 6:31)

- Love is demonstrated through deeds.
- Compassion without action is incomplete.
- We love because Christ first loved us.
- Ask: Who needs encouragement? Who needs practical help? Who needs forgiveness? Who needs to hear the hope of Christ?

Week 3: Loving Others Well—Even When It’s Costly or Uncomfortable
Speaker: Jeremy Branham

Loving Others Costs Us Something. (Mark 10:45; Luke 9:23; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

- Time
- Comfort
- Pride
- Resources
- Reputation
- Convenience
- Emotional energy
- God uses these sacrifices for His glory.

We Can Love Because God First Loved Us. (1 John 4:19; Ephesians 3:17-19; Romans 8:38-39)

- We do not manufacture love in our own strength.
- God’s love fills us and overflows into others.
- The Holy Spirit empowers us to love beyond our natural ability.

Things to Think About

- Who is hardest for me to love right now?
- What comforts am I unwilling to sacrifice for others?
- How has Jesus loved me sacrificially?
- What act of costly love is God calling me to this week?
- How can I depend on the Holy Spirit to love more like Christ?

NOTES:
