

DIGGING DEEPER



In Every Action...Love

Jan 25, 2026

This message challenges us to examine whether love truly defines our Christian walk. Drawing from 1 John 4 and Jesus' command in John 13, we're reminded that love isn't optional—it's the uniform that identifies us as Christ's disciples. The sermon unpacks three powerful truths: love is our defining mark, love demands action beyond words, and love makes us beacons of hope in a dark world. We're confronted with searching questions like, 'If someone unfamiliar with Christianity watched you practice your faith, what would they think it takes to be right with God?' The message beautifully illustrates that love isn't about shouting our beliefs but shining them—like a lighthouse that doesn't condemn but simply guides lost ships to safety. James 2 reminds us that faith without deeds is dead, pushing us beyond comfortable words into sacrificial service. Whether it's helping someone carry groceries, smiling at a stranger, or forgiving when it hurts, we're called to love as Jesus loved—even when it costs us something. This isn't about earning salvation but about allowing God's love to flow through us so powerfully that others are drawn to Christ without us saying a word.

01.	How does understanding that 'God is love' fundamentally change the way we approach our relationships with others, especially those who are difficult to love?	02.	In what specific ways can you 'clothe yourself with love' this week so that others recognize you as a follower of Christ before you even speak about your faith?
03.	James asks if faith without deeds can save anyone - how do you balance the understanding that we are saved by grace through faith, not works, while also recognizing that genuine faith produces loving action?	04.	Jesus commanded us to love 'just as I have loved you' - what does it mean practically to love at the level Jesus demonstrated, especially when that love costs us something or causes us pain?
05.	If someone unfamiliar with Christianity watched you practice your faith for a week, what would they conclude it takes to be made right with God based solely on your actions?	06.	The sermon mentions that a lighthouse doesn't shout or condemn, it simply shines - how can we as a church be a beacon of hope without falling into judgment or creating confusing rules for people to follow?
07.	What is one concrete action you can take this week to demonstrate love to someone in your life who is currently 'in a mess' and needs guidance rather than condemnation?	08.	How does the truth that 'love comes from God' and 'anyone who does not love does not know God' challenge your current understanding of what it means to have a relationship with God?
09.	In what areas of your life are you wearing the wrong 'uniform' - displaying something other than love - and what needs to change for love to become your defining characteristic?	10.	The sermon states that 'the service that costs is the service that counts' - what sacrifice might God be calling you to make in order to genuinely love someone in your community?

Remember...

"A lighthouse doesn't shout, it shines. A lighthouse doesn't condemn or judge or confront, it shines. That's what we're called to do."