

## **LOVE IN THIS WORLD**

1 John 4:13-21

Westland Baptist Church

Roy Meadows, Lead Pastor

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**Review-Mark12:28-31, also the Story of the 'Good Samaritan':**

**Love is based on Who God Is.** (Not merely a warm feeling or based on circumstances.)

**Love is Emotionally and Financially Costly.**

**Love will cause you to rearrange your calendar.**

**Love is the Greatest Command.**

**Love is Total Commitment.**

**I John13-21**

*<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.*

*God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

*<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.*

Loving others is tough. In theory, love is so beautiful. In real life, love is an effort that can only be accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Love involves:**

• **Forgiveness:**

From Hurts

Hurts In our Homes

For Generational Hurts ('curses')

Includes Racial Reconciliation-Dr King "I have decided to stick to love...Hate is too great a burden to bear." Anti-Semitism

• **National Reconciliation**

• **Commitment To Love One Another, To Care For One Another-Love does not 'happen' by itself.**

• **Ultimately what is at stake? Heaven and Hell**

The whole backdrop or context to the life of Christ, the Gospels and the New Testament letters and The Revelation of Jesus Christ is eternity and the question: Where will you spend eternity- Heaven or Hell?

Brock Purdy

Patrick Mahomes

The woman Sharon and I met in a small town (New Ulm). After the transaction was complete, we began to share Christ with her. As a child, church meant nothing to her. Believing in Christ as a child seemingly had no impact on her. Then, as an adult, life hit her. Though inactive in faith, she began relying on God Who had been there all along.

This week, Don Tanner and Sandy paid for two families. The first, at the restaurant, God spoke to Don three times to pay for a young couple whose card was not 'working'.

Later the same day, at Walmart, God prompted Don to pay for the person in front of him and Sandy. He did so. After the transactions, Don and Sandy told the people they had helped, "God loves you". The people listened and agreed, "God is love". Actions demonstrate God's love.