

## UNITED WE STAND Part 4: Breaking the Law

**Objective:** To challenge us to pursue the 'law of love' in all of our relationships.

*The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.*

Galatians 5:6

*For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

Galatians 5:14

*Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

Ephesians 4:2-3

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

John 13:34-35

- Every organization has rules or expectation for its members. Some even extend those expectations to visitors. What are some of the expectations that have been put in place for people to be a part of the church? Are those expectations from God (found in Scripture) or from man?
- In Galatians 5, Paul says, "*The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.*" What do you think that means? How could that be displayed in a local church context?
- Does the idea that "*The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love*" make you nervous for your church or for your understanding of being a follower of Jesus? Why or why not?
- Both Jesus and Paul said, "*love your neighbor as yourself.*" What would that look like in your day to day life?
- Jesus' command went even further. His command was that we love one another *the way he loved us.* How did he love us. What would it look like if we loved others the way he loved us.

### Consider this week:

- Who do you interact with on a regular basis that you need to love the way Jesus loved you?

**Final Thought:** Jesus said, "everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another." Based on how you show love to others, do people know you are a disciple of Jesus?

