



IMPACT COMMUNITIES
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**Sequoia Impact Communities are a place to
experience real life & real impact.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Love is the Greatest
#27 of 33— May 6, 2018**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) What did you find most significant about this message? How did it encourage you and challenge you?

3) How does our culture define love? How would you define love?

4) Read and reflect on 1 Corinthians 13. What jumps out at you as you reflect on the nature and importance of *agape* love?

5) Read 1 Cor. 13:1-3. What is the context for Paul's teaching on love? Review 1 Cor. 12 and 1 Cor. 14 for the context. How does this understanding of love impact the way we operate as a church family?

6) Read 1 Cor. 13:4-7. Make a list of what love is and what it isn't. How does this understanding of love differ from what we see in culture? How does this passage challenge and encourage you as you consider the way you love?

7) Read Psalm 103-8-18. Describe God's nature. Why is this significant in light of our ability to love? How does Jesus perfectly embody the love described in 1 Cor. 13:4-7 and what implications does this have for us?

8) Read 1 Cor. 13:8-13. Why do spiritual gifts pass away when Christ returns to establish His Kingdom? Why do faith, hope, and love remain as eternal values? What does this tell us about the importance of love for us in the here and now? How does this impact the way we engage in mission?

9) In what way do you need to pursue the love of Christ, to love more like Christ? What action steps will you take this week?



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SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Love is the Greatest

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor
May 6, 2018



What is love and how do we experience it and extend it?

1 Corinthians 12:31 "But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all."

Love is essential v. 1-3

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NLT) If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. ³ If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

- Because love is essential we value it most.

Love is edifying v. 4-7

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT) Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

- Because love is edifying we choose it.

Psalm 103:8-18 (NLT) The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. ⁹ He will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever. ¹⁰ He does not punish us for all our sins; he does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve. ¹¹ For his unfailing love toward those who fear him is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. ¹² He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. ¹³ The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. ¹⁴ For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust. ¹⁵ Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. ¹⁶ The wind blows, and we are gone—as though we had never been here. ¹⁷ But the love of the Lord remains forever...

Love is enduring v. 8-13

1 Corinthians 13:8-13 (NLT) Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! ⁹ Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture!¹⁰ But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. ¹² Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely. ¹³ Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

- Because love is enduring we seek it in God.

Big Idea: Pursue the love of Christ, to love like Christ.

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation(NLT).