



DEVOTED TO & HONORING One Another:

HOW we live out what we believe matters!

Pastor Eric Smith | February 13, 2022

Introduction:

We were made by God to live and grow in community. We grow best as followers of Jesus when we are in a church family and when we belong to a small group of like-minded believers. Growing, reaching, serving, worshiping, and belonging are not SOLO ways of living. They all require others! As followers of Christ, we are baptized into the Christian community known as the church. In close proximity to other believers, we are called to intentionally live the one another truths found in the scripture and modeled by Jesus.

This week we will study the passage of scripture that challenges us to be devoted to one another with genuine affection and to outdo one another in demonstrating honor. Get ready to grow as you obey God's word and experience Christ-centered community in your Life Group, learning and practicing the "One Another's" of the New Testament!

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

Romans 12:9&10 NLT

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Romans 12:9&10 ESV

1. Let love be _____, without hypocrisy, sincere, true.

The model for our love is Jesus.

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. **Romans 5:8 NLT**

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) **Ephesians 2:4-5 NLT**

My love is GENUINE. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

(Evaluate yourself honestly on a 10 point scale. With a 1 being the lowest you can score and a 10 the highest.)

2. _____ what is evil, hold fast to what is good!

Choosing EVIL (action/thought) hardens your heart and ability to choose the good and the true.
Choosing GOOD (action/thought) softens the heart.

Our capacity to CHOOSE one or the other (GOOD or EVIL) changes with our practice!!!!

Love reveals the glory (the goodness) of God.
Evil obscures the beauty of Christ.

I recognize and ABHOR evil. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I hold tightly to what is good. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

(Evaluate yourself honestly on a 10 point scale. With a 1 being the lowest you can score and a 10 the highest.)

3. Love one another with _____ affection.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. **1 John 1:5 NLT**

How can I LOVE with Genuine Affection?

God calls us to view each and every believer as one "for whom Christ died."

For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. **Romans 14:15 ESV**

We demonstrate brotherly affection when we passionately and sincerely love as Christ loved by:

- Sacrificing for one another.

- Demonstrating patience toward one another.
- Forgiving one another.
- Building each other up (as opposed to TEARING one another down).
- Praying for one another.

I love fellow believers with genuine affection. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

(Evaluate yourself honestly on a 10 point scale. With a 1 being the lowest you can score and a 10 the highest.)

4. _____ in honoring each other.

Prefer to honor rather than be honored.

12 After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, “Do you understand what I was doing? 13 You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and you are right, because that’s what I am. 14 And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet. 15 I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. 16 I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. 17 Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them. **John 13:12-17 NLT**

I PREFER to honor over being honored. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

(Evaluate yourself honestly on a 10 point scale. With a 1 being the lowest you can score and a 10 the highest.)



Discussion: How can I practically honor and demonstrate genuine affection to those around me this week?
Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. James 1:19 NLT

Assignment: Daily seek out someone who needs a listening ear. Practice honoring and loving others this week through active listening.

Challenge: Keep Encouraging and Building Others Up while Confessing and Praying with one another. Listen to others and show your devotion, love and honor to them.