



DISTINCTIVES

The word "DISTINCTIVES" is centered in a blue, sans-serif font. It is surrounded by a decorative arrangement of lines: a solid blue horizontal line passes through the text, and a solid blue vertical line passes through the top and bottom of the text. Eight dashed grey lines radiate outwards from the text, forming a starburst pattern.



Late-Summer Series: *Love One Another*

- 7/9** Dr. Nicolas Ellen: *Bear one another's burdens* (Gal 6:1–2)
- 7/16** Josh Hall: *Encourage one another daily* (Heb 3:13)
- 7/23** Scott Bertrand: *Consider how to stir up one another* (Heb 10:24–25)
- 7/30** Zeke Zeiler: *Consider others more significant* (Phil 2:3)
- 8/6** Andy Hovis: *Show hospitality to one another* (1 Pet 4:9)



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- 8/13** 90th Anniversary
- 8/20** Distinctive 11: Active Mercy
- 8/27** Distinctive 12: Global Witness
- 9/3** Distinctive 10: Fruitful Discipleship
- 9/10** The Gospel of Matthew (Chapter 10)



Distinctives

CHRIST	Gospel Grace
	Repentant Faith
	Holy Worship
SCRIPTURE	Biblical Authority
	Expository Preaching
FAMILY	Covenant Family
	Servant Leadership
	Hungry Prayer
	<i>Kingdom Diversity</i>
MISSION	Fruitful Discipleship
	Active Mercy
	Global Witness



Acts 15:6–9

⁶ The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. ⁷ And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. ⁸ And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, ⁹ and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith.”



Acts 15:10–11

¹⁰ “Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? ¹¹ But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”



1. Diversity is always difficult (15:6–7)

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2. The gospel is for all nations (15:7)

⁷ And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.”



2. The gospel is for all nations (15:7)

Acts 10:28

“You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.”



2. The gospel is for all nations (15:7)

Acts 10:34–35

³⁴ “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality,
³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and
does what is right is acceptable to him.”



2. The gospel is for all nations (15:7)

Acts 10:43

“...everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”



3. In Christ, there is no “us” or “them” (15:8–9)

⁸ “And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, ⁹ and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith.”



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

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4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

Matthew 5:17

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

Romans 5:20

Now the law came in **to increase the trespass...**



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

Romans 3:20

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since **through the law comes knowledge of sin.**



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

Galatians 3:19

Why then the law? It was added **because of transgressions**, until the offspring [Christ] should come to whom the promise had been made...



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

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Acts 13:38–39

³⁸ “...through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,
³⁹ and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything
from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.”



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

- **The evidence:** the gift of God's own Spirit (15:8)
- **The process:** a new heart washed by faith (15:9)
- **The source:** a life rescued by Jesus' grace alone (15:11)



4. Every believer is saved the same way (15:8–11)

1 Corinthians 6:9–11

⁹ ... Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,
¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.



Two Questions





Two Questions

- **Do I love the nations?**



Two Questions

- **Do I love the nations?**
- **Do I befriend diverse believers?**