

REIGNITE LOVE

The Lakefront Church and First Baptist Church - Venice, Florida
One Church - Two Locations July 20, 2025

Matthew 24:3-12 (CSB) *While He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached Him privately and said, "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what is the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"*

...¹² Because lawlessness will multiply, the love of many will grow cold.

Revelation 2:1-5a (CSB) *" Write to the angel of the church in Ephesus: Thus says the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand and who walks among the seven golden lampstands: ²I know your works, your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot tolerate evil people. You have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and you have found them to be liars. ³I know that you have persevered and endured hardships for the sake of my name, and you have not grown weary. ⁴But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. ...*

- We love what we value and value what we appreciate.

1. We love what we value.

Luke 15:11 (CSB) *He also said, "A man had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.' So he distributed the assets ... ¹⁷When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food, and here I am dying of hunger! ... But while the son was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, threw his arms around his neck, and kissed him. ...²³ ...let's celebrate with a feast, ²⁴because this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' So they began to celebrate.*

- Intrinsic value: the real value of an asset based on fundamental factors, as opposed to the price assigned by the market.
- Intrinsic value from a Christian worldview is not earned—God endows it. Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:13-14, Matthew 10:29-31, Romans 5:8
- Our value is affirmed by the price God paid for our redemption, not our performance.

Luke 10:25-37 (CSB) *Then an expert in the law stood up to test him, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ...²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"³⁰ Jesus took up the question and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him, beat him up, and fled, leaving him half dead.³¹ A priest happened to be going down that road. When he saw him, he passed by on the other side.³² In the same way, a Levite, when he arrived at the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³ But a Samaritan on his journey came up to him, and when he saw the man, he had compassion.³⁴ He went over to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on olive oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him. When I come back I'll reimburse you for whatever extra you spend.'*

- We love what we value, and we value what we appreciate.

Matthew 6:21 (CSB) *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

- Without value, love erodes.

2. We value what we appreciate.

Psalms 100 (CSB) *Let the whole earth shout triumphantly to the Lord!² Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.³ Acknowledge that the Lord is God. He made us, and we are His— His people, the sheep of His pasture.⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and bless His name.⁵ For the Lord is good, and His faithful love endures forever: His faithfulness, through all generations.*

- *Appreciation is the breath that keeps value alive.* - anonymous

1. Loving God comes from valuing Him.

Deuteronomy 6:5 (CSB) *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart..."*

2. Valuing God begins with appreciation.

3. Loving your spouse, your child, your parents, begins with valuing them.

4. Valuing your spouse, your child, your parents, begins with appreciating them.