

One Love

Text: 1st John 3:11-18

Life isn't just a meaningless j_____ ; God has called you to a higher purpose.

The defining characteristic for Christianity, for this church, and for each one of us, is Love. Ref: Matthew 12:29-30

Jesus made it clear that our expression of love for one another reflects the extent of our love for God. Ref: 1st John 4:7-8

Three things that the command "love one another" requires.

First of all...

1. Loving One Another Requires That You O_____ Your Eyes.

Love requires that we open our eyes to the non-negotiable nature of the love-one another command. Ref: John 13:34

Until we open our eyes to the fact that the defining characteristic of the Christian life is love, we will be ineffective in fulfilling the call of God in our lives. This goes for us as individuals and us as a church.

2. Loving One Another Requires That You Take A_____.

When people we know are going through a difficult time, *of course* we need to pray that God will meet their needs. *And then* we need to be willing to do what we can to be the answer to that prayer.

Love is expressed through the things we do. It's more than a feeling. It's an action. Ref: Philippians 2:3-4

3. Loving One Another Requires That You Make a S_____. Ref: 1st John 3:16

Once when Jesus was speaking of the final judgment, he told a story of how that day would be. Ref: Matthew 25:34-40

This is the message, John said, the command you have heard from the beginning: we are to love one another.

Let our lives, then, be focused one expressing God's love at e_____ o_____.