

“God’s Blueprint for our Church: Love People”

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – September 14, 2014

[Matthew 22:34-40](#) (Great Commandment)

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. 35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

HOW IS CHRIST CALLING HIS CHURCH TO LOVE PEOPLE?

To love people, we must...

1. LOVE GOD FIRST AND KNOW THAT HE LOVES SINNERS!

[1 John 4:19](#)

We love because he first loved us.

[1 John 3:16](#)

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

[Romans 5:8](#)

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

To love people, we must...

2. KNOW GOD’S WORD!

[2 Timothy 3:16](#)

All Scripture is God-breathed...

[2 Peter 1:16](#)

We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

[John 17:17](#)

[Jesus said] Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

[Matt 19:3-6](#) (the two shall become one flesh)

[Rom 1:24-27](#)

24 God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. 26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

[1 Cor 6:9](#)

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ...

To love people, we must...

3. INTRODUCE THEM TO THE GREAT HEALER!

[John 10:10](#)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (more abundantly).

People are broken because of sin. Every command God gives is to lead us from brokenness to “Abundant Life”.