The Church is FOR... Love

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 15, 2018

<u>1 John 3:16</u>

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.

The Church is...

I. <u>LOVED</u> BY GOD

<u>1 John 3:16</u>

16 This is how we know what love is: <u>Jesus Christ laid down his</u> <u>life for us...</u>

<u>John 3:16</u>

[Jesus said] 16 "For <u>God so loved</u> the world that <u>he gave his one</u> <u>and only Son</u>, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but <u>have eternal life</u>."

The Church is...

2. LOVED IN SPITE OF OUR <u>UNWORTHINESS</u>

<u>Rom 3:23</u>

23 ... <u>all have sinned</u> and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom 5:6, 8

6 You see, at just the right time, <u>when we were still powerless</u>, <u>Christ died for the ungodly</u>. 7 ... 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: <u>While we were still sinners</u>, <u>Christ died</u> <u>for us</u>.

<u>1 Cor 15:10</u>

10 [God's] grace to me was <u>not without effect</u>.

<u>1 John 1:8-10</u>

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 <u>If we confess our sins</u>, <u>he is faithful and just</u> and will <u>forgive us our sins</u> and <u>purify us from all</u> <u>unrighteousness</u>.

The Church is...

3. <u>COMMISSIONED</u> TO <u>SHARE</u> GOD'S LOVE

<u>1 John 3:16</u>

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

<u>Mark 5:19</u>

19 Jesus ... said [to the demon-possessed man], "<u>Go</u> home to your family <u>and tell</u> them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

Matt 28:10

10 Then Jesus said to [the women at the tomb], "Do not be afraid. <u>Go and tell</u> my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matt 28:18-20 (Great Commission)

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore <u>go and make</u> disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."