Love like Jesus: God is Love

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 18, 2018

<u>1 John 4:7-19</u>

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 13 We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

To love like Jesus we must understand that...

I. GOD IS <u>LOVE</u>

<u>1 John 4</u>:

7... love comes from God. 8 ... God is love. 16 ... God is love.

<u>2 Peter 3:9</u>

9 The Lord is <u>not slow in keeping his promise</u>, as some understand slowness. <u>He is patient with you</u>, <u>not wanting</u> <u>anyone to perish</u>, but everyone to come to repentance. To love like Jesus we must understand that...

2. GOD <u>PROVED</u> HIS LOVE THROUGH JESUS

<u>1 John 4</u>:

9 This is how <u>God showed his love</u> among us: <u>He sent his one</u> and only <u>Son</u> into the world <u>that we might live through him</u>. 10 <u>This is love</u>: <u>not that we loved God</u>, but that <u>he loved us and</u> <u>sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins</u>.

<u>Rom 2:4</u>

... God's kindness leads you toward repentance...

<u>Rom 8:35-39</u>

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

To love like Jesus we must understand that...

3. OUR <u>LOVE</u> PROVES GOD'S LOVE RESIDES <u>IN</u> US

<u>1 John 4</u>:

7... <u>Everyone who loves</u> has been <u>born of God</u> and <u>knows God</u>. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

11 Dear friends, <u>since God so loved us</u>, <u>we also ought to love one</u> <u>another</u>. 12 ... <u>if we love one another</u>, <u>God lives in us</u> and <u>his love</u> <u>is made complete in us</u>.

19 We love because he first loved us.