

12/29/24

Sermon – Let's Love 2025

Scripture – 1 Cor 13, Mathew 26:36-46

Main Message – Love is a foundation that really makes everything about the Christian Faith work right.

There is no value in the Christian Faith that does not build upon the Love bestowed upon us by our Father in Heaven. What did he bestow? His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ was sent to redeem us from our sins. Thank you, Jesus.

There is nothing that we can do well that does not have love behind it. And we have discussed many different qualities of love and seen different examples of love. Perhaps you want to be a better witness for Christ, then perfect your love language. Be adept at loving in an appropriate fashion for the circumstance.

Remember, the brotherly love, familial love (parental), Intimate BFF love, hospitality love, dutiful pragmatic love, and passionate sexual love have an appropriate place and, applying them appropriately is vital.

Remember what Paul said in **1st Corinthians 13**. In summary, you're nothing without love. You have received love from our Father in Heaven. Now it is your responsibility to perform the appropriate act of love on others. Not the action you want, but the action they need.

This is how we fail in love. We get the when, how much, how often, and the needed type wrong. Why do we get it wrong, because it is not what **WE** want to do or *feel like*. Or from the other side, we demand that someone love us the way we think we want. (maybe say that all again) True love makes no demand on others. True love is sometimes sacrificial. Don't love like a martyr which puts the focus on you, love like a servant of others expecting nothing in return. Why, because you may not get something in return, and now there is no reason to be disappointed.

For 2025 the message/resolution is to get better at loving- not the way you want, but the way others need.

Jesus faced this dilemma in the Garden of Gethsemane. Let me read it to you. Mathew 26.

So, we know that Jesus loved us the way we needed, but it wasn't like he wanted. He prayed that this cup would pass. God said no. He went through this death on the cross so we could have this gift of eternal life.

Here is the crazy part. God loved us that much. He knew that not everyone would accept that gift, but he loved us so much he did it anyway. But this is the test. Can you love him back enough to follow in his footsteps and love everyone else according to their need. If you want to be a Christian you must learn to love. You must learn that there are no boundaries of utilizing perfect love. You can't possibly love too much so don't put a limit on it.

Doing it right, might mean your exhausted and tired. Jesus certainly was.