

The People Of God, Pursuing The Plans of God, By The Power Of God

Love Applied

John 13:34-35; 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

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Thesis: We are to be committed to glorifying God, as the people of God, because He is worthy to be glorified. As both the church gathered and the church scattered we are to have an outward proclamation and an inward meditation of the gospel. This should lead to being a disciple who makes disciples of all nations. As disciples of Christ we are to be known by our love for each other, and how the love of Christ controls our life.

1. The church gathered should be known and defined by love (John 15:34-35).
 - A. What does it mean to love each other like Christ loves us?
 1. Christ's love applied will cost us something.
 2. Christ's love isn't only applied to those we "like."
 - B. How does applying Christ's love make the gospel visible?
 1. Christ's love applied is counter-cultural.
 2. Christ's love applied points back to Christ.

2. The love of Christ calls the church scattered into a reconciling ministry of love (2 Cor 13:14-20).

A. Internal meditation on the love of Christ will motivate the outward proclamation of the reconciling ministry of love (vs. 14-15)

1. The love of Christ restrains our words and actions (vs. 14)

2. Everyone is going to die (vs. 15a)

3. But not everyone is going to live (vs. 15b)

B. The reconciling ministry of love causes us to see people differently (vs. 16).

C. The reconciling ministry of love causes us to be something new and to live for something new (vs. 17-20).

3. Loving like Christ can be hard, so we must call upon the power of Lord in prayer to apply His love.