



Pastor Ken Goodban

Part 3

Jan.21, 2024

Real Love for God-Others-the World

1JN.2:7-17

*“...let us not love with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.”*

1Jn.3:18 NIV

The Calvary Vision:

A Family of Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus Who Love God, Love Others, and Change the World.

1. Real Love for God is spelled OBEDIENCE.

“And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.”

1Jn.2:3-6 NLT

2. Real Love for Others is spelled SERVICE.

“Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. For the darkness is disappearing, and the true light is already shining. If anyone claims, “I am living in the light,” but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. Anyone who loves a fellow believer is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. But anyone who hates a fellow believer is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.”

1Jn.2:7-11 NLT

“I am writing to you who are God’s children because your sins have been forgiven through Jesus. I am writing to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I am writing to you who are young in the faith because you have won your battle with the evil one. I have written to you who are God’s children because you know the Father. I have written to you who are mature in the faith because you know Christ, who existed from the beginning. I have written to you who are young in the faith because you are strong. God’s word lives in your hearts, and you have won your battle with the evil one.”

1Jn.2:12-14 NLT

3. Real World Change is spelled DIFFERENCE.

"Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever." 1Jn.2:15-17 NLT

"With eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I beg you, my brothers, as an act of intelligent worship, to give him your bodies, as a living sacrifice, consecrated to him and acceptable by him. Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity." Rom.12:2 JBP



DAILY LIFE GROUP GUIDE _____ Jan.22-27, 2024

Use *this* guide this week to help you spend time with God every day. As you go through the daily devotional, reflect on His Word and pray specifically for God to guide your steps through the day. Take one day at a time - Read, Reflect, and Record your answers. Pray for God's guidance. Share your thoughts & action steps with your LifeGroup. We are Better Together!

Day 1: READ 1Jn.2:3-6 focusing on Obeying God's Commands.

John pulls no punches – what's the real truth here? How would you explain the statement that "Real love for God is spelled obedience" and how does this work in your life? List 3 of God's Commands that you obeyed this week and 1 that you know you disobeyed (truth & confession). Pray for a new level of knowing God by actually obeying His Word daily.

Day 2: READ 1Jn.2:7-8 focusing on a new level of Loving One Another.

What's this "old commandment" John is writing to his "dear friends?" What makes it new to you? What's an example of how Jesus lived this out for you to clearly get it? How are you doing at living this out in the light of Jesus? Pray for a new level of living out what Jesus did.

Day 3: READ 1Jn.2:9-11 focusing on Your Relationship with Others.

Again, John gets real here: what's the truth? How does John contrast Light & Love with Hate & Darkness in this? Can you give an example of where you may have "stumbled in the darkness" in a relationship with a fellow believer/church member? What is Jesus showing you in this? Pray for a new level of love & grace for my fellow followers of Jesus and myself.

Day 4: READ 1Jn.2:12-14 focusing on 3 Stages of Maturity in the Family.

How would you describe the 3 different levels of people John is writing to and what's the difference in their "stage of faith?" Where would you say you are in this stage of your life in comparison to these 3 stages of maturity and why? What's your challenge from this to "level up" in your faith and how might this be connected to loving your fellow believers? Pray for God's next step for you.

Day 5: READ 1Jn.2:15-17 focusing on a Rightly Relating to the World.

How would you define "the world" that John is talking about? How is the world offering people something in direct conflict with what God is offering? Which of the 3 temptations do you seem to struggle with the most and how can your fellow believers help you win the battle? How can you practically focus more on changing the world rather than being changed by the world? Read Rom.12:1-2 and pray for God's Word & Will to change your world.