



# LET'S GO DEEPER

## SERMON NOTES The Blessing of Love- Pastor Peter February 2nd 2025

**Sermon Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 13**  
 “If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God’s secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn’t love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn’t love others, I would have gained nothing. Three things will last forever - faith, hope, and love - and the greatest of these is love.”

### THE EPITOME OF LOVE

The epitome of love is that God loves us. It’s impossible for God to do anything other than love is because love is at the heart of His very nature and character.

1 John 4:16 “God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.”

And God doesn’t just keep love to Himself, He takes the lead and He expresses it first.

1 John 4:10 “This is real love - not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”

However, it is possible that our love for Jesus can lose its edge. If our love for God has lost its edge, God can fan the flame. God can restore the passion. God can renew the heart. God can revive the soul. We just have to desire it.

### THE DEPTH OF LOVE

You may remember the name Joseph. Joseph’s brothers jealousy leads them to place Joseph and a path of personal devastation. In spite of that, in the end, this is Joseph’s response.

Gen. 50:20 “You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good.”

### QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever felt like your love for God has lost its passion or intensity? What caused it?

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2. What are some signs that our love for God has become routine or lukewarm?

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3. What is one step you can take this week to actively seek God and allow Him to fan the flame of love in your heart?

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**1 Tim. 1:5** “The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.”

We're to be filled with love. Jesus says it's by our love for each other that people will know our disciples. So, we honour and value each other. We accept and embrace each other. We forgive each other when a wrong is done or an offence is inflicted.

## THE EXTENT OF LOVE

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

“So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, ‘Come back to God!’”

We are Christ’s representatives in this world. And the main focus of our representation reveals the extent of love.

God makes His appeal through us and His appeal through us is to plead with people who don't know Jesus to 'come back to God.'

And He asks us, as His ambassadors, to share our deep love for Him with others, especially with those who don't know Him yet. We'll see people as Jesus sees them and He sees them as people who need Him.

How can you overcome them?

### Prayer Prompt:

Thank You Lord for loving us unconditionally and for calling us to be reflections of Your love in this world. We acknowledge that without You, we cannot love as You have commanded us. Today, we come before You with open hearts, asking You to fill us with Your love so that we may share it with those around us.

### QUESTION:

**1.** How does Jesus' love set the standard for how we should love others?

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**2.** Why do you think Jesus said that our love for others would be the way people recognize us as His disciples?

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**3.** How can we love even those who are difficult to love?

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**4.** Are there any barriers that prevent you from loving others the way God calls us to?

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