



Your  
*story*  

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matters.

JUNE 8, 2025

Message Notes



### **People-ing 101: Building Community One Story at a Time** **"THE NUMBER 1 ONE ANOTHER"**

**Pastor Tom Lundeen | June 8, 2025**

\_\_\_\_\_ is huge issue for just about every generation.

How can this be the case?

How can the most \_\_\_\_\_ culture in history be struggling to find meaningful relationships?

In the New Testament alone, there are at least \_\_\_\_\_ distinct passages on how we're to relate and deal with each other often referred to as the *one anothers*.

Note **John 13:34**

## **1. To Love One Another Is a \_\_\_\_\_** (note **John 15:12, 17; 1 John 3:11**)

Love is often defined as a deep emotion, an uncontrollable feeling that we can \_\_\_\_\_ *into* or \_\_\_\_\_ *of*.

Good news is that God doesn't command our \_\_\_\_\_.

## **2. Why Loving One Another \_\_\_\_\_ So Much**

Note **John 3:16; 1 John 4:16; Galatians 5:6b; 5:22a; 1 Corinthians 13:2, 8, 13; John 13:34-35**

God's asking us to love like Him...

...choosing for the \_\_\_\_\_ good (as He did for us at the cross).

Loving one another is not \_\_\_\_\_ sentimentalism.

It's not tolerance of \_\_\_\_\_ or taking the path of least resistance.

It's making choices (no matter how I feel) based on the principles and truth of \_\_\_\_\_ for the highest good of others.

Since love is a choice we make, it is always demonstrated by \_\_\_\_\_, not words (note **1 John 3:16-18**).

Note **1 John 4:7-8**

God's love is expressed in Jesus' actions, and we are to \_\_\_\_\_ His example (note **1 John 4:9-10**).

It also makes visible God's presence (who is humanly invisible) in \_\_\_\_\_ (note **1 John 4:12**).

The good news = this love isn't up to us to \_\_\_\_\_ (note **1 John 4:7a, 19**).

God's real love navigates the \_\_\_\_\_ balance of courage and compassion, straightforwardness and gentleness, and kindness and truth.

### **SO MY NEXT STEP IN PEOPLE-ING 101:**

- Loving each other works best when more than one individual is working at it and in places where relationships can flourish.



**1** Come every Sunday

**2** Be part of a group

**3** Serve on a team

- An important point = to fully appreciate and receive God's love from others, we need to take the \_\_\_\_\_ and give it to others.
- Loving one another with God's love is the \_\_\_\_\_ evidence of being a Jesus follower (note **1 John 4:20**).
- Any claim to love God is a \_\_\_\_\_ when not accompanied by unselfish and practical love for each other.
- Note **1 John 4:21; John 13:35; 1 John 3:23**

***Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!***

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Your group matters.

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

*You've heard the statement, "They couldn't pay me enough to do that job."  
What job would that be for you?*

1. Read **John 13:34; 15:12, 17; 1 John 3:11**. God's command in these passages is, "love one another." But Pastor Tom makes it clear that "God doesn't command our feelings." So, how do you "love one another" even if you don't have feelings of warmth or affection for someone?
2. Pastor Tom said that "Loving one another is not mushy sentimentalism...tolerance of evil or taking the path of least resistance." Have you ever been tempted to "love" in these ways to avoid conflict or risk deeper conversation? If so, how did that work out for you and the person you were "loving"?
3. Pastor Tom pointed out that it's not up to us to generate this love. Note **1 John 4:7a, 19** where we read that this love comes from God. Tell of a time when you sensed the love of God flowing through you, even when your emotions weren't feeling it. What was your part in becoming a conduit of His love?
4. Read **1 John 4:20**. How do you respond to this jarring statement?
5. "Loving one another with God's love is the normative evidence of being a Jesus follower" (**John 13:35; 1 John 4:20-21**). If you were the COD (Christian of the Day) for everyone to see, would a non-believer have enough evidence of God's love to recognize you as a follower of Jesus? If not, what needs to change?

## PERSONAL GUIDE

*Day One:* Mark 8; Psalm 125

*Day Two:* Numbers 8; Proverbs 1

*Day Three:* Galatians 2; 1 Kings 21

*Day Four:* Revelation 17; Ezekiel 2

*Day Five:* Job 1; Acts 13

*This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.*



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In the New Testament alone, there are at least 41 distinct passages on how we're to relate and deal with each other often referred to as the *one anothers*.

Note **John 13:34**

## **1.** To Love One Another Is a Command (note **John 15:12, 17; 1 John 3:11**)

Love is often defined as a deep emotion, an uncontrollable feeling that we can fall into or out of.

Good news is that God doesn't command our feelings.

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God's asking us to love like Him...

...choosing for the highest good (as He did for us at the cross).

Loving one another is not mushy sentimentalism.

It's not tolerance of evil or taking the path of least resistance.

It's making choices (no matter how I feel) based on the principles and truth of Scripture for the highest good of others.

Since love is a choice we make, it is always demonstrated by actions, not words (note **1 John 3:16-18**).

Note **1 John 4:7-8**

God's love is expressed in Jesus' actions, and we are to imitate His example (note **1 John 4:9-10**).

It also makes visible God's presence (who is humanly invisible) in culture (note **1 John 4:12**).

The good news = this love isn't up to us to generate (note **1 John 4:7a, 19**). God's real love navigates the delicate balance of courage and compassion, straightforwardness and gentleness, and kindness and truth.

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