LOVE THY NEIGHBOR: "*Building On The Foundation Of Love*"
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Sunday, November 1, 2026

Introduction

We live in a world where almost everyone agrees that we need more love, yet people often disagree about what love actually looks like. As followers of Jesus, our understanding of love must begin with God Himself.

God's love is both foundational and formational. It is foundational because His love gives us new life and becomes the basis for everything we believe and the way we live. It is formational because experiencing His love changes how we love God and treat others. Within the call to "*love thy neighbor,*" we must first experience the foundational and formational love of God in our own lives.

Discussion Questions

1. God's Love Is Our Foundation
Read 1 John 4:7–10 and 2 Corinthians 5:17.

- Why is it important to experience God's love before we can genuinely express His love to others?

- How has understanding God's love changed the way you see yourself or live your life?

2. Loving God With Everything
Read Mark 12:28–30.

- Jesus commands us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. What does that practically look like in everyday life?

- Which of these four areas is the most challenging for you right now, and why?

3. Loving Others as Ourselves
Read Mark 12:31 and 1 John 4:11–12.

- What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? How is this different from the way our culture often defines love?

- The message reminds us to extend the same forgiveness, grace, and patience that we need ourselves. Which of these is most difficult for you to extend to others?

4. Putting God's Love Into Action
Read 1 John 4:7 and 11–12.

- How does seeing others the way God sees us change the way we respond to difficult people?

- Who is one person in your life who needs to experience God's love through you this week? What is one practical way you can demonstrate that love?

Personal Reflection

- Is there a loss or season of grief you need to bring honestly before God?

- What is one step you can take this week to receive support, allow yourself to heal, or encourage someone who is grieving?

Memory Verse

The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."

Mark 12:31 (NLT)