

December 19, 2021

Great Expectations

Pastor Brian Greenleaf, Lead Pastor



Love

John 1:15-17, Luke 3:22, Jeremiah 1:5, Jeremiah 31:3, Romans 8:31-39

God's loving pursuit

1. The _____ of Christmas is Easter
2. Jesus had no _____.
3. Jesus came to earth on a _____ mission.

"Legalism says God will love us if we change. The gospel says God will change us because He loves us." - Tullian Tchividjian

"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." - Augustine

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Sermon Talks:

1. What caught your attention in this week's sermon? Was there something you had never heard before or something you had a question about?
2. Jesus had no faults or shortcomings.
 - Does knowing this affect the way you look at Jesus?
3. Read Luke 3:22 and Jeremiah 1:5.
 - Think about (and discuss if in a group) God's love for His Son, Jeremiah, and for us in each verse.
 - What effect did His love have on Christ's life and death?
 - What effect could His love have on our lives?
4. We often think we need to prove something to God before we will earn His love.
 - Did Christ have to prove Himself before He was marked by God's love?
 - Do we? What evidence do we have?
5. Read Romans 8:31-39.
 - Does the fact that "nothing can separate you from God's love" change the way you live your life at all? If so, how?
6. God's love is a perfect, completed, finished love.
 - How is that different than what we are accustomed to?
 - How is God's way of expressing love different than ours?

MOVING FORWARD

Have you received God's love and accepted His Son, Jesus, into your life as your Savior and Lord?

- How are you loving Him back?

If you have not accepted Jesus into your life, would you do that today?

- Romans 10:9 says, "If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."
- 1 John 5:12-13 says, "Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life. I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life."