

THIS IS LOVE

Part 1: What Is Love?

WEEK OF JULY 4, 2021

Why would a group of people stack hands to serve, give to, and love our city all month long? Ultimately, because of God's love for us.

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- What is love?
 - 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. | 1 John 4:10
 - God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. | 1 John 4:9
 - Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. | 1 John 4:11
 - This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. | John 15:12
 - There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. | John 15:13
 - [Jesus] came to serve, not be served—and then to give away his life in exchange for the many who are held hostage. | Matthew 20:28
 - Jesus came to serve, give, and love—so that we can experience true freedom and true life.
 - If you made the decision to follow Jesus, text the word FOLLOW to 215-999-8575.
 - According to Jesus' way, every person matters. Every human has dignity. Every person deserves to be served.
 - "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" | Matthew 25:40
 - You can find organized outreach opportunities on ForPhilly.com.
 - The indicator of your faith is your love in action. It's more than talk. It's more than just occasional. It's a lifestyle. It's a habit. It's a practice.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What answers first come to mind if you're asked, "What do you love the most?" What people or things do you honestly, immediately think of?
2. When you consider what scripture says about love (see verses above), how does that differ from or challenge the ways you've thought of love throughout your life?
3. Jesus says that whatever we did for the least of these, we did it to/for him. If you take a moment to evaluate how well you've loved the "least of these," in what ways have you done well? In what ways could you improve?
4. As a group, what opportunities can we specifically pursue this month to serve and love our city together?