



**First Baptist Church Exists to  
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ By...  
Truthfully TEACHING God's Word  
Sacrificially LOVING One Another  
Selflessly SERVING Others  
Faithfully ENGAGING Our World**

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."  
-Jesus in John 13:35

Making disciples begins with us living as disciples who love one another while reflecting the sacrificial love of Jesus.

**Sacrificially Loving One Another, Makes Us a Church Where People...**

----- (11-15)  
"Love one another" was the command of Jesus to his disciples and the command of the apostles to the church (Jn. 13:34; 15:12; Rms. 13:8; 1 Jn. 4:7, 12; 1 Pet. 1:22; 3:8).

Humanity's beginning was marred by the sin of hate that led to murder as Cain murdered Abel in the Garden of Eden because his "deeds were evil" (12; Gen. 4:1-12).

The proof that you are a true disciple of Jesus who has really "passed out of death and into life" is when you "love the brothers" (3:14).

In keeping with Jesus' teaching, if you hate a brother then you are a murderer who does not have "eternal life abiding" in you (15; Mtt. 5:22).

**How to Shun Hate and Show Love...**

1) -----  
"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..."-Matthew 5:43-44

Disciples of Jesus must love the most unloving and persecuting enemies knowing God loves his enemies (Rms. 5:8; 8:7; Jms. 4:4).

2) -----  
"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."-Ephesians 4:32

In the church, love supernaturally transcends differences of opinion, personalities and even bitterness over past offenses.

----- (16-18)

Jesus "laid down his life for us" at the cross sacrificing himself as the perfect example of sacrificial love for those who did not love him (Jn. 15:13; Rms. 5:8; Heb. 10:12).

"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."  
-Jesus in John 15:13

Disciples live love by giving their lives in loving sacrificial service to others as they selflessly sacrifice their own goods to respond to "a brother in need" (3:17).

Love is bigger than "word and talk" as it is shown through the medium of "deed and...truth" (1 Jn. 3:18).

**How to Live Love By Sacrificing for Others-**

1) -----  
"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."-Philippians 2:3-4

Disciples give their lives for others through sacrificial deeds demonstrating the sacrificial love of Jesus at the cross.

2) -----  
"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."-Ephesians 5:1-2

Love shows itself in loving deeds that sacrifice for the spiritual, physical and financial needs of others.

----- (19-24)  
The more you love, the more assurance you possess as you "have confidence before God" knowing the supernatural love of God is causing you to love others (3:21).

"God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."-Romans 5:5

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."-Galatians 5:22-23

**How to Prove We Know God's Love-**

1) -----  
"But someone will say, 'You have faith; I have deeds.' Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds."-James 2:18

Making disciples of Jesus begins with FBC showing the love of Jesus through opportunities to do loving deeds on behalf of others.

2) -----  
"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."-1 Corinthians 13:4-7

For FBC to make disciples, we must be a congregation where everyone lives as loving disciples so others see the authenticity of Jesus' love at work in our relationships.

**Challenge-** -----  
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