

BIG TRUTH: THE CHURCH IS MARKED BY LOVE

Romans 12:10; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; 1 John 2:9-10; 3:23

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 13:34-35

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

BIG IDEAS

- Love is selfless and sacrificial action.
- Love labors to help others become like Jesus.
- Love looks like Jesus’ pursuit of us.

BIBLE PASSAGE: JOHN 13:34-35

UNITE - I AM PART OF A FAMILY

The Unite Year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are given a spirit of adoption as sons (Romans 8:15-16), are made a child of God, and we are also saved into a family- the Church. The Unite Year explores how we are to live as a part of a family, and to live in light of our calling as servants and disciples of Christ. We use our gifts to build up the church as we pursue unity, humility, and gentleness with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-2).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- The church is a family.
- The church is given by God.
- The church exists for God.



Every student should feel...

- Thankful for the unique ways God has gifted them and their church.
- Appreciation for the elders and leaders that God has gifted their church.



Every student should strive to...

- Prioritize gathering to worship each week with their church family.
- Learn more about membership in their local church.
- Do something to intentionally serve someone in their church family each week



Every student should want...

- To devote themselves to pursue holiness with their church family.
- To have their lives be marked by love for the church.
- To live in a way that is sacrificial and generous for the good of others and the glory of God

FAMILY WORKOUT:

This week we will consider how to discuss with our son or daughter what godly love is like. We will pray with them to have a heart that seeks to love others as Jesus loves them. We will lead them to practice loving others within their local church.



Read and meditate on John 13:34-35 this week.

As you meditate on these verses ask yourself some of these questions:

- How can you model godly love to your son or daughter? What are some ways you can help your son or daughter understand how to pursue like Jesus pursues?

Ponder how you can help your son or daughter join with the church in loving others as Jesus loves us.



Spend time praying with your son or daughter this week.

- As you pray, model asking the Holy Spirit to guide you to love others by pursuing them like Jesus pursues us.
- Pray with your student this week. As you pray, ask the Holy Spirit to guide them to love others as Jesus loves us.



Discuss with your son or daughter what a Biblical definition of love is.

- Help them find verses in the Bible that teach what Godly love is like.
- Discuss ways for your son or daughter to pursue others to help them become more like Jesus.
- Discuss with your student ways that he or she can invest in others through your church. Help them find areas of service or ministries that they can join in to love others as Jesus loves us.