

Love, love, love... February is the month for love, right? Convalescing at home for a bit with family reminds me of the need for love. It's too easy to not speak lovingly to those who "have to love you anyway." 1Jn.3:19 says, *...let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth*, but that is not a "proof-text" to justify unkind comments! LOL!

As believers, our example is God, who demonstrated His love for us in deed and truth. 1Jn.4:9,10 says, *In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world…that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation* (place of mercy) *for our sins.* Then comes the hit, *Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.* (1Jn.4:11)

How do we practice love? By our words and actions. Let's center on that "words" thing for a minute. We're finishing up a series on the "re-examined" purpose of the church -- to glorify God, to equip the saints, and to evangelize the lost. Of course we know that we can love the lost by our actions, helping them understand the love of God by how we act towards them. But how about by words?

I re-discovered an OT example of that in 2Kings 5. Syrian commander Naaman was a great warrior (enemy to Israel), but he had a leprosy problem. On one of his raids into Israel, he had brought back a captive, a young Israelite girl who became their house-servant. This girl is concerned enough about her master and his health and confident enough in her God's ability to help him that 2Kings 5:3 tells us she came to Naaman's wife with news of how Elisha, God's prophet could help him.

Never underestimate the power of your words -- especially words of love. Having a heart-to-heart conversation with an unbeliever about their relationship with the Lord, inviting them to church with you, or just asking them how you can pray for them can make an eternal difference in their life.

Let's love in word and in deed...in language and in action...in speech and in service. Both those closest to you -- and those farthest from God -- need your love!

Wade

Beloved, if God so loved us. we also ought to love one another. (1Jn.4:11)

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FINANCIAL UPDATE: (as of 1/27/2021)

Current Checkbook Bal	\$70 <i>,</i> 639.37
Designated Funds Bal.	<u>\$15,845.45</u>
Total Available Funds	\$54,793.92
2021 YTD Giving Received	\$20,057.93
2021 YTD Giving Received 2021 YTD Giving Needed	\$20,057.93 \$30,567.80
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Sunday Morning Bible Studies

2/7	Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus	(Youth/Adults)
U30 S1	Philip and the Ethiopian	(Children)
2/14	Confronted by the Gospel of Jesus	(Youth/Adults)
U30 S2	Paul Met Jesus	(Children)
2/21	Experiencing New Identity in the Gospel of Jesus	(Youth/Adults)
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U30 S3	New Life in Jesus	(Children)
U30 S3 2/28		

Wednesday Night Service is Back!!! Starting Feb 10 @ 6:30 PM

- Adult (Mixed Group) 20/21 (Pastor Wade)
 20 min of Devotion, 21 min of Prayer with 9 min to make calls or write notes of encouragement.
- Men's Bible Study Fearless Leadership Insights into the life of Joshua (Jacob Wheat)
- Women's Bible Study Women in the Word Study on the book of Galatians (Laura Taylor)
- Student Ministry 6th Grade and Up

Women's

- Kids Jam children's ministry for Pre-K to 5th
- Nursery for children under the age of 4

Mondays - 10 am at FBCA Mondays - 10 am via ZOOM Wednesdays - 6:30 pm at FBCA Thursdays - 7:00 pm at Melissa Cross Call/Text Linda McCurdy for more info 682-432-4324

Bible Sludy

ortunities

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF STUDENTS SEARCH COMMITTEE Please PRAY for our search committee: *Lacy Barnett, Tommy Dennis, Jeff Dixon, Oliver Monrose and Kelly Richardson.*

