



Loving Our Neighbors
Love the Way Jesus Taught It
The Rescue of Love

Isaiah 53:5-6 - *But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.*

1 Corinthians 15:20-22 - *But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.*

1. Implementing our soul care initiatives to achieve deeper friendships within our church family.
2. As individual church members, growing in our ability to build stronger relationships with those who live right around us.
3. As a church family, developing our "parish mentality" to especially serve those who live near our two ministry campuses.
4. Launching our Faith Community Development Corporation to serve urban neighborhoods with excellence.
5. Constructing the first phase of our Senior Living Community.

3 themes dominant on Jesus' mind before dying on the cross in our place

I. Rescued for a New Purpose

A. The meaning of glorify

"to explain, clarify, praise, honor, cloth in splendor"

John 17:1 - *Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,*

B. The focus of Jesus' life

1. at his birth

Luke 2:13-14 - *And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."*

2. in His teaching

Matthew 5:16 - *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

3. in His miracles

Mark 2:12 - *And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."*

4. in His death and resurrection

John 12:27-28 - *Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, "Father, save Me from this hour"? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name...*

5. in everything

John 6:38 - *For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.*

C. The possible focus for us (because of the power of the rescue)

John 17:10 - *and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them.*

John 17:22 - *The glory which You have given Me I have given to them...*

Romans 8:29 - *For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;*

1 Corinthians 10:31 - *Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

Hebrews 11:6 - *And without faith it is impossible to please Him...*

Psalms 10:4 (NIV84) - *In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.*

John 15:4 - *Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me...*

II. Rescued to a New Authority

A. The emphasis of the truth of God's Word in this prayer

John 17:6 - *I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.*

John 17:8 - *for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.*

John 17:14 - *I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

John 17:17 - *Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.*

John 17:19 - *For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.*

John 17:20 - *I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word.*

B. Remember the nature and the effect of the initial "crash"

2 Corinthians 11:3 - *But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.*

Genesis 6:5 - *Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

Judges 21:25 - *In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

2 Peter 2:1-2 - *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned;*

2 Timothy 4:1-5 - *I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

III. Rescued to a New Potential

John 17:11 - *"I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are.*

John 17:20-21 - *I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

John 17:22-23 - *The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.*

Ephesians 4:1-3 - *Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

"...its primary characteristic is timelessness. Though uttered within a few hours of Calvary, it contains thoughts and expressions which must have been familiar to our Lord at any moment during the centuries which followed. As we study it therefore, we are listening to words which have been uttered many times on our behalf, and will be uttered until we are with Him." (F.B. Meyer, Gospel of John, p. 296)