**Loving Our Neighbors**

**The Gospel—The Greatest Love Story Ever Told**

**Love that Defines Your Identity**

3 statements about our identity that give us hope, encourage us to love the Lord, and motivate us to make godly decisions

**I. Identity Statement #1: I Need Nothing (vv. 31-32)**

**Romans 8:31-32** - *What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?*

A. Because God is for us there is no overcoming force

B. Because God did not spare His Son, He will give us all the other promises He made

**Philippians 2:6-8** - *Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

**II. Identity Statement #2: Jesus’ Opinion is the Only One that Matters (vv. 33-34)**

**Romans 8:33-34** - *Who will bring a charge against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.*

A. Who will be able to make accusation against us?

B. Who will be able to condemn?

C. Christ is the only one who did what was required, who holds the right position, or who has the compassion to properly answer these questions

**III. Identity Statement #3: I am Secure (vv. 35-39)**

**Romans 8:35-39** - *Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, “FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED.” But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

A. There is not a “who” that can separate us

B. There is not a “what” that can separate us

C. In fact, we are more than conquerors

1. Two states of existence: life and death

2. No spiritual power: angels, principalities, and powers

3. No temporal condition: things present and things to come

4. No special location: things above or things below

5. Nor any other created thing