

Pastor Todd Schlechty Love is the Answer

January 20, 2019 1 John 2:1-11

**When you think of power, what images come to mind?**

*“We must discover the power of love, the power, the redemptive power of love. And when we discover that we will be able to make of this old world a new world. We will be able to make men better. Love is the only way.”*

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

**How Jesus’ Love Can Change Your World:**

**I. Receive Love-- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I John 2:1-2 *My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.*

**The World’s Problem:**

**How is Love the Answer?**

**II. Live in Love--\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I John 2:3-6 *By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; 5but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: 6the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.*

**III. Walk in Love--\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I John 2:6-11 *…the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked. 7Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard. 8On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining. 9The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. 10The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. 11But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

**Point:**  

**Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!**

1. What does it look like for you to receive Christ’s love? When have you experienced Jesus as your Advocate (intercessor)? When have you accepted Jesus as your atoning sacrifice? What does it mean to you to have a perfect Savior who is also your friend?
2. What does it mean for you to live in Christ’s love? How do you abide in Christ’s love? What means of grace help you best experience Christ’s love?
3. How have you experienced a walk with Christ that has felt like walking in the light? How have you experienced Christ call you out of darkness into a more illuminated life?
4. How can you live out Christ’s love in a practical way to the people around you this week?

If you’d like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email *pastortodd@thevineva.org* to set up an appointment.