

PASTOR LETTER FOR MAY 2022 SQUEEK



Nelson Mandela once said, “No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” These are powerful words from a man who was imprisoned for 27 years. Yet Mandela reached higher by loving and forgiving rather than seeking revenge. His words became acts of love.

God asks us to go beyond and higher and to really love. It is not just a weak knee confession, “Oh, by the way, I love everyone.” Rather, it is a love lived out by word and actions. This is what the Bible says, 1 John 3:18, *“Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”* We can love, and yet if we are going to love the way God loves, we must reach higher and love the way God loves us. It is a strange kind of love. This love forgives, cares for, and restores those who have fallen.

In the Gospel of John, we are told that Jesus, the word, is a “Verbo”, a verb, an action, God’s love in action. Is this the kind of love you show to others? Is our life a love verb? Today make a commitment to love not only by your words but by your acts of love. Forgive, let go, care for the hurting, and restore even those who have hurt you.

Let’s pray: It is me again God. I am trying to reach higher, but it is so hard to do. I would rather bop them in the noses and say a few choice words. In fact, have behind their back. Yet I know you want us to forgive and to love. Send your Spirit into my life to love the unlovable. Help me to reach higher. Amen.

May 2022 Sermons/Scriptures

- 1st, "Overcoming Fear" Matthew 8:23-27
- 8th, "Repent And Do Not Judge" Matthew 11:25-30
- 15th, "Come Unto Me" Matthew 11:25-30
- 22nd, "...And Have Not Love" 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 (a)
- 29th, "What Love Wants" 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 (a)