

# **“The Reason for Hope!”**

## **‘Love Has Come’**

### **John 3:16**

Pastor Dan

“God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'”

-Billy Graham

**ἀγαπάω (agapaō)**. vb. to love. Involves a deep level of affection and intimacy.

- 80 percent of young people under the age of 18 report feeling lonely.
- Only 40 percent of people over 65 report feeling occasionally lonely.
- Forty-three percent of people ages 18 to 25 report feeling unloved.
- Seventy-three percent of Millennials say they are lone

#### **1.) God ‘so loved’ us that He gave us His one and only son!** **John 3:16**

- A. The God of the universe gave up what was most precious to Him so we may be saved!
- B. It would cost Him everything!
- C. We didn't deserve the love of God, yet he gave it to us anyway! Romans 5:8
- D. Because of His love for us he wanted to repair a broken relationship. 2 Corinthians 5:19
- E. YOU MATTER TO GOD!!!! Isaiah 43:4

## 2.) The greatest commandments are to Love God and Love others! (Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:31)

- A. Jesus uses the Hebrew word Shema in these passages.
  - a. It is the meaning of loving something or someone above everything else.
  - b. We are called to love God above all else!
- B. Your Love for God is displayed through your love for others!
  - a. This is a type of love that doesn't expect anything back in return. You are loving simply to demonstrate the nature and love of God.
- C. This kind of love is something that we live out every day. It is part of who we are.
- D. God showed the world His love by giving us his son so that we can have a new life. (1 John 4:9-11)
- E. The love of God changes us. (1 John 4:16-18)

## 3.) True love manifests itself in (1 Corinthians 13:1-7, 13)

- A. We have nothing without love. V1-3
  - a. This is the overwhelming sense of care for others and putting them first.
- B. Love:
  - a. Is patient
  - b. Is kind.
  - c. Does not envy.
  - d. Does not boast.
  - e. Is not proud.
  - f. It does not dishonor others.

- g. It is not self-seeking.
  - h. It is not easily angered.
  - i. It does not keep a record of wrongs.
  - j. Does not delight in evil.
  - k. Rejoices in truth
  - l. It protects, trusts, hopes, and always preserves.
- C. Love is eternal V13 (Jeremiah 31:13)
    - a. You and I will be loving God and others for eternity if we have a relationship with Him.

## Closing Questions!

- 1.) How has Christ's love changed your life?
- 2.) Do you love unconditionally?
- 3.) Does the love of Christ play out in your everyday life?
- 4.) This Christmas do you know that you are loved by God?