

March 21st, “Going The Distance”

What do you remember from last Sunday’s message?

What were some things from last Sunday’s message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

John 13:34

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Why do you think Jesus uses the word love as a verb and not a noun?

In last week’s message Jim said, “If you act in love, eventually your feelings will follow. If you consistently act on how you feel you will enter a vicious circle that spirals out of control.” Why do you think that is the case?

What are some ways that our culture presents love in comparison to how the Bible presents love?

1 John 3:16-18

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. **17** If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? **18** Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

How can you show love for your spouse or others in your life, regardless of your feelings towards them at that point in time?

What does it mean to go the distance in love?

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things
and beyond cure.

Who can understand it?

How might ‘following your heart’ actually lead you somewhere you don’t want to go?

Why do you think there is so much emphasis nowadays on following your heart?

Feelings often work against reason, against our moral compass, and are often in conflict with our faith and what we know is right and true. Do you think that choosing to follow reason, our moral compass and our faith in God can actually result in a change of our feelings?

If yes, why don't you think this is always a popular route to take?