

Beloved

Beloved: Incomprehensible

February 27th & 28th

Speaker: Pastor Heather Zempel

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-8

Series Overview

“This is the marvel of marvels,” said C.S. Lewis, “that he called me Beloved.” We are beloved by God. His love is where we find our identity, our security, our authority. Then, and only then, can we become what Dr. King called the beloved community. We lead with love - we love because He first loved us.

Series Discussion Questions

What does it mean to be a beloved community?

Message Overview

In order to step into our belovedness, we must first encounter and be transformed by the unimaginable, inconceivable, incomprehensible love of Jesus. In 1 John, the disciple reminds the churches of Asia Minor of the final teachings of Jesus in John 13-17- that God is love, that God demonstrates his love towards us at the cross and the empty tomb, and that we demonstrate God to the world around us when we love one another.

Message-Specific Discussion Questions

How are you experiencing your identity as the beloved of God?

Pastor Heather discussed the thought of when people reduce the phrase “God is love”, to “God is nice”. God is inherently, at his very core, relational. His very existence is community. It is a continuous loop of perfect love. **How do you interpret the phrase, God is love?**

Take some time to wrestle with this statement by A. W. Tozer, **“What comes to mind when you think about God is the most important thing about you.”**

Read 1 John 4:11-12 “Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.” **What are some ways that you can create a beloved community by living out this passage in scripture?**

Pastor Heather stated “People fall in love with Jesus when we show them a picture.” She then proceeded to give us an example by sharing a joyful picture of her daughter with us all. **What pictures of Jesus are you showing to the world?**

Practical Application

- Read 1 John side by side with John 13-17. Love is mentioned over 55 times. **Meditate on the words in each passage, and allow them to read you.**
- [NCC Daily](#) continues this week covering our **Beloved series**. Join us Monday through Friday as we dig deeper throughout this season of Lent.
- Climb the stairs to the [Upper Zoom](#) each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. We'll come together as a community to start our days in His presence together, listening intently, and responding in prayer. **Register at ncc.re/UpperZoom.**