**Elder Berry Ross February 19, 2017**

**Ever-Increasing Love**

1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

**Key truth:** When believers increase their love for one another, God is glorified and the Church is edified.

1. Christians are held together when we increase in our love for one another.
2. A holiness lifestyle is rooted in love. 1Th. 3:11-13
3. Christians often feel secure when love is present.
4. Christian love produces one harmonious family.
5. Christian love is not meant to become stagnant.
6. In order to reach the world for Christ, our love must increase.
7. The Church can thrive when believers increase in love.
8. T.E.A.M. when we demonstrate increased love.
9. Christian love bears witness to people outside the faith.
10. Christian love should produce an honest living. 1Tim. 5:8, Eph. 4:28
11. Believes are to love because the world is watching. Pr. 17:14-20, 20:3, Col. 4:5, Jn. 13:35
12. The believers business should be about the Father’s business. Luke 2:49

**Taking it Beyond the walls:** Embrace every opportunity to allow love to increase in your life.

**Connection Group Study Questions**

**Quick Review:** Looking back on your notes from last week’s teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

**Getting to know you:** When you were growing up, how did your family express love to one another? How has that affected the way you receive and give love?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Do you believe God puts a high priority on the subject of love? Why or why not?

Read ACTS 6:1-7: Do you think the Hellenistic widows felt loved by the Hebrews? What was in danger of happening to the early church if this issue wasn’t corrected?

Read Luke 7:42,47:

Who generally benefits when love is enacted?

Have you ever displayed such an act of love?

Read Ephesians 4:2; 1Peter 4:8: What role does love play in a harmonious church. What challenges if any have you faced increasing in love after a conflict?

Read 1John 5:2-3: How does understanding 1 John 5:2-3 better motivate you to be more involved here at Beyond The Walls?