**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr October 25, 2020**

**Living As Children Of Light In The Midst of Darkness**

Romans 12:9-21

**Key Truth:** Being the body of Christ means uniting in love around a common purpose.

**Christianity; What’s Love Got To Do With It?:**

1. Loving God always involves loving others.

 **Matthew 22:36-40, 1 John 4:20-21**

**Loving Others Intentionally:**

1. Love is a decision of the will and not a feeling.

2. Love is not built on conditions of acceptance but rather

 honor.

3. Love shows up in tangible actions.

 A. Don’t repay evil behavior with more bad behavior.

 B. Walk in humility.

 C. Be willing to see things from another’s perspective.

4. Love controls our attitude and actions.

 A. We must remember, we live out our faith in the public

 sphere.

 B. Revenge is not an option.

 C. When life gets tough, choose hope, patience, and

 prayer.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Pray that we would be intentional, not only about being in community with each other but also about holding each other accountable to living with Christlike love. Ask God to show us how to better serve each other so we may best serve Him.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Have you ever been a part of a group tasked with accomplishing a goal even though the group lacked unity? What was that like? What happened?

Why is it difficult to love some people? Since God emphasizes loving one another, what causes us to feel like we have a choice of how we will respond to others?

Read 1 John 4:20-21: How does the absence of love impact the effectiveness of the church?

How can a person abhor evil and still love unconditionally?

Proverbs 25:21-22: Name some practical ways we can bless those who mistreat us. What actions have you seen lately that demonstrate humility?

Do you find it easier to live out these things with fellow Christians or with those who don’t know Christ? Why?

Read Galatians 5:6: How can applying this Scripture when it comes to politics help us show love to people who have different political viewpoints? Do you struggle in this area?

Read Matthew 5:43-48: How might the following verses motivate us when we come upon challenging times or challenging people as we serve God?