John 13:34-35

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Matthew 5:43-48

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Love Actually
John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:43-48
Todd Chapman - August 13, 2017

Our experience with God through faith in Jesus transforms our lives. We think, feel and act differently because of the new life we have in Christ. The principal expression of our lives of faith is love. Our enjoyment of God's limitless love inevitably flows out of us.

We love others who love Jesus.

We love those who desperately need to meet Jesus.

We love those who desire to hurt us.

Notes:

Questions for Discussion:

John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:43-48

What does it mean?
1. Where have we been thus far in the series?

2. How does the theme "love actually" fit into the over all scheme of the series?

3. What's the big idea of Matthew 5:43-48?

4. Why does Jesus tell us not to hate our enemies?

5. What does it mean that we are to be perfect like God is perfect?

6. What are followers of Jesus supposed to be known by? (John 13:34-35)

How does it apply?
1. Knowing that we are to be known for our love, is that an accurate representation of who we are?

2. How can I better love my neighbor?

3. In what ways can the Church as a whole better love our neighbors?