

Sermon: OMTL - Love Completely Scriptures: 1 Cor. 1:18, Col. 3:13-14 Date: Jan. 23 & 24, 2016

### -[ LET'S TALK ]-

- If there are new people in the group for OMTL, spend some time getting to know each other.
- When was the last time you remember stopping to savor a rich moment?

### -[ LET'S WARM UP ]-

- Are relationships really the most important thing? Why or why not?
- For you, is it easier to love others through acceptance, or challenge? Why?
- How do you handle relational hurts?
  Blame, forgiveness, Minnesota Nice, etc.?
- What are some attitudes our culture has toward forgiveness? What do you think?

## -[ LET'S DIG | CHOOSE 1 ]-

- Read James 2:1-13, 4:1-12 and talk about challenging and accepting others.
  - 1. When does James prescribe acceptance, and when does he prescribe challenge?
  - 2. In 2:8-10, how do you see challenge and acceptance working together for love's sake?
  - 3. Consider James' attitude towards his audience. Is James showing love? Why or why not?
  - 4. Is James hypocritical in 4:11-12? What is the difference between the way he challenges his audience and the judgement he speaks against?
- Read Psalm 103:1-6, Proverbs 15:1 and talk about the power of forgiveness.
  - 1. How are we to respond to God's forgiveness? What about when a person forgives us?
  - 2. What are some of the benefits we enjoy from forgiveness?
  - 3. How might forgiveness impact others?
  - 4. Why does God show us His forgiveness and ask us to do the same?

#### —[ LET'S ACT ]—

• Diagnose and write down what you think each important relationship in your life needs in order to be healthier. It may be as simple as spending more time together, discussing a glaring but as yet unspoken issue, or sending someone a note or email to say you're thinking about them. (from pg. 86 in the One Month to Live book)



# -[ SERMON REVIEW ]-

- Sermon Scriptures: [Mk 10:21] [Rom 15:7] [Phi 2:3-4] [Heb 12:15]
- Ruined relationships often result from a fierce sense of individualism and independence.
- Loving completely really means focusing on our relationships with others.
- God demonstrates His love through sacrifice—which is the biggest way to show love.
- Just as a mountain has "death zones," so do relationships:
  - 1. The Death Zone of Misunderstanding
  - 2. The Death Zone of Me
  - 3. The Death Zone of Bitterness
- Moving past these relational death zones requires:
  - 1. Gripping The Rope of Acceptance
  - 2. We Gain Traction In Our Relationships Through Loving Actions
  - 3. We Need To Be Tethered To Forgiveness

—[ NOTES ]—		