



STOP BEING NICE

Be Loving Next Steps February 23, 2025

Opening Prayer:

God of all people, times, and places, thank you for your unending love. Thank you for your active movement and participation in our lives and world. As we journey together, help us to be more like you. Help us to brush off the influences and behaviors of conformity to others and transform us into a people who reflect Your Son and Your image. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Breaking the Ice:

- What is your favorite romantic comedy? Love scene in a movie?
- Who was the first person you ever told, "I love you?"

Wrestling with the Word:

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- What strikes you about this passage?
- This passage describes agape love. What is agape love?
- What do you think Paul is trying to communicate in verses 9-12?
- Another famous love passage is John 3:16 (For God so loved the world...). How are 1 Corinthians 13 and John 3:16 related?
- Why is the "greatest of these" love?

Next Steps:

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or sermon?
- What are 3 ways you could love people in your neighborhood or community this week?
- Who else in your life needs you to share the love of God with them?

Prayer for The Week:

Gracious and Loving God, we love because you first loved us. Such love goes beyond our understanding and yet through Christ we experience this amazing unconditional love. Teach us how to move beyond sentimental feelings that are nothing more than niceness. Strengthen us to find the more excellent way of agape that will show our families and others what real love looks like. We ask in the name of the one who demonstrated such love for us, Jesus the Christ. Amen.



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