

I Love My Church  
Loving The People

Introduction - Loving "The Church" means loving the **PEOPLE**.

I. "Have to" versus "want to"

- There are some places/ locations that we have to visit in life eventually
- What is your response to the following:
  - **SCHOOL**
  - **DENTIST/ DOCTOR'S OFFICE**
  - **JURY DUTY**
  - **SECRETARY OF STATE/ DMV**
- How about coming to church? Is it another "have to" go to place?
- Questions: Is that what God intended when He created the church?  
Was that His idea about this community of people? - Hebrews 10:25
- This series will enable us to learn to be the community God intended us to be

II. How We Should Be **KNOWN** - John 13:34-35

- This is a prelude to the church to come in Acts; known for their love for one another
- Question: What does that mean?  
Answer:
  - Five Guys Burgers
  - My daughters at Christmas
- The church is based upon relationship - John 1:9, 12; 3:15-17
- Jesus intentionally loved us, served us and brought us into relationship
- When we intentionally practice love for the church (people) we will experience a love for the church; It was never meant to be a restaurant 😊

III. What Does **INTENTIONALLY** Loving The Church Look Like?

- Love by connecting - 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Love by serving - 1 Peter 4:10
- Love by giving - Luke 6:38
- Love by sharing 1 Timothy 6:18

Conclusion - May we intentionally love the church and become what God **INTENDED** for the church.

*All scripture is from the HCSB unless otherwise noted.*