



The Messenger

Let's Love Like He Loves

by Major Julie Feist Kalispell, MT Corps—Northwest Division <http://usw-womensministries.org>

Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of Himself to us. Love like that. Ephesians 5:2 (The Message)

I don't know about you – but not only do I want “to be like Jesus,” I want to love like Jesus loves.

Why? Because I know it's the best way to live. When we love like Jesus, we're lifted outside ourselves. We shed self-interest – with our spouse, our kids, friends, everyone. His brand of love sees beyond the normal range of human vision — over walls of resentment and barriers of betrayal. When we love like Jesus, we rise above petty demands and snobbish entitlement. We loosen our tightfisted anxiety and relax in a surplus of benevolence.

Most of all, the Jesus model of love inspires us in following the best way to live, **“the most excellent way”** (1 Corinthians 12:31b, NIV). I want to love like that!

But can anyone really love like Jesus? After all, He raised the bar of love to extraordinary heights. Love your enemies? Walk the extra mile? Turn the other cheek? Seriously? This is love beyond reason, isn't it? Of course. And that's the point.

To love like Jesus, we need to think and feel. We need reason and emotion. Both head and heart, working together. It's the only way to bring perfect love into our imperfect lives.

Here's the truth: When you open your heart, love changes your mind. Let that sentence soak in. Your mind can do an about-face and be transformed when it receives a divine impulse from your heart. You'll experience a revolution in your thinking when you allow your heart to enter the conversation. It's what Paul was getting at when he said, **“You'll be changed from the inside out”** (Romans 12:1b, MSG).

Jesus' teaching and the example he set reveal at least five distinct and practical qualities of His love:

- become more mindful — less detached.
- become more approachable — less exclusive.
- become more graceful — less judgmental.
- become more bold — less fearful.
- become more self-giving — less self-absorbed.

Is this an exhaustive list of how Jesus loved? Of course not. But it's a way to get an earthly handle on this heavenly ideal of love. Time and again, Jesus demonstrated these five qualities and spoke about them, not as unreachable ideals. These are doable.

Today's key verse reminds us: **“Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of Himself to us. Love like that”** (Ephesians 5:2).

FUN FEBRUARY FACTS

- The month of February is American Heart Health Month
- February is Black History Month
- Valentine's Day is February 14th
- February is the only month to have a length fewer than 30 days.
- February is one of the most frequently misspelled words in the English language

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GOD'S LOVE

- God loves you
- God's love is unconditional
- God's love is revealed to us in Jesus
- God calls us to love our enemies
- God's love inspires us to love our neighbors with compassion!

Let these verses remind you that God's love is everlasting and unchangeable:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments. Deuteronomy 7:9

I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. Jeremiah 31:3

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Stitching with Love Ministry

meets every 1st Thursday
February 1 at 9am –12pm.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Every 2nd Saturday of each month
February 10 at 8 am

Home Extension Club

meets every 3rd Wednesday
February 21 at 10:00 am –12pm

Sr. Saints Fellowship

meets every 3rd Tuesday
February 20 at 11:00 am



We live in a very noisy world. Even when we are alone, we are likely to be bombarded with sounds. The phone in our pocket, will notify us with text, emails, social messages. Even when we turn off those sounds the inner dialogue of our own thoughts can be deafening. The one sound we most need to hear today is the voice of God, especially when the sounds of the world are loud and chaotic. For our own good and the glory of God, we should try to hear his voice.

In nine weeks, we will be observing Easter. This year Lent starts on February 14. That is a Wednesday, and I am sure you know also St Valentine's Day. Lent ends on the Thursday before Good Friday, that will be March 28. Lent started as a time of repentance. It lasts for 40 days. Those days were originally set aside to praise and worship the Lord: to read His word, the Bible: and to pray. Included in that was an act of repentance, giving something up as a sign of sorrow. Things like alcohol, coffee, television, sleep without a pillow, and other such things. That is supposed to help your relationship with God.

At a Baptist Church we do not usually think about such things. Lent is not part of our tradition that is for other denominations. But what if in our lives to eliminate the noise and focus on God, we put ourselves on AIRPLANE MODE. Silence the noise of the world, so we can concentrate and focus on hearing the voice of God in our hearts. It has been said that, "Spiritual disciplines are not the answer; but they only lead us to the answer" Our relation to God is set by trusting in Christ. Giving up something for 40 days will not help you if you only plan to forget God the other 325 days.

I do think it would be a great idea to slow down, hear God's voice in the Bible, in worship, and in prayer. To do that you have to turn off the noise that often overwhelms you. Turn off what you can, like the radio, the television, silence your phone. Give up sleep, get up early. Give God Sunday, and attend church to worship Him. Learn how to turn down the noise and rest in Christ.

Terry Fortner

Operation Christmas Child



We are beginning to gather items again for OCC. For the month of February, we are requesting hats, gloves and socks. (We do not need scarves!) Also, we would love to be able to send a soccer ball and pump with each box this year. We could order a bulk box of balls and pumps and needles for approximately \$250 if someone or maybe your class would like to contribute toward this. Just mark OCC on your envelope if making a monetary donation. Please place items in the box in the breezeway.

Share a Memory

In recognition of Bro. Terry's retirement, the Personnel Committee invites you to write in the memory book that is available in the church office during office hours Monday-Thursday (Just see Karla). We'd like you to share a memory, a funny story, or something that Bro. Terry preached that impacted your life. Maybe you just want to congratulate him and give him good wishes on his retirement, or anything else that you think would touch his heart.

There should be plenty of room for each person to use the front and/or back of page (but a half page or less is okay too)! Be sure to sign your name to what you write! Thank you for your help with this project. Let's help him feel the love of 25+ years at ZHBC!



Youth, Children & Other Happenings

Weekly Youth & Young Adult Gatherings

Wednesday Night *Switch* Services

Music and a devotion from 6:30-7:30pm

Sunday Night *Growth Group* at 5:30 pm

Food, fellowship & Bible Study

Invite your friends and come join us!

Guest Speaker/Musician

Brian Arnold | King's Table Ministry

"America's Favorite One-Handed Pianist"

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IS COMING.COM

February 18, 2024

Children's Resurrection

Celebration

March 23

10 am-12 pm



Save the Date!

VBS 2024 ~ June 16—20



At Stellar, kids will be launched on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast

shining Jesus' light to the world. It's an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.

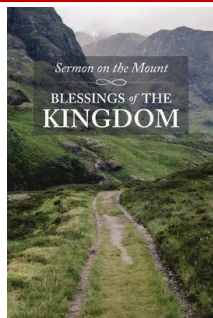
VBS Children's Meeting on February 20 at 6:00 pm

SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 6:00 PM

Sermon on the Mount

Blessings of the Kingdom

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus invites His disciples to walk in His narrow way (Matthew 7:13-14).



ZHBC Scholarship Fund

Did you know that Zion Hill also has a scholarship fund? We have a fund set aside to help our future college students. If you would like to make a contribution toward this fund, just mark scholarship on your offering envelope. Your donations are tax deductible and our future college students will appreciate any assistance we can help them with.

Schools Out

- CABOT February 19
- PCSSD February 5 (PT Conf.)
- JNP February 6 (PT Conf.)

Let all that
you do be
done
in LOVE

1 Corinthians 16:14

Zion Hill Baptist Church
Service Times

Sunday

- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Morning Worship
- 11:30 am Children's Worship (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:30 pm The Jumble Gathering (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm Growth Group (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study (Basement)

Tuesday

- 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study

Wednesday

- 6:30 pm Mid-Week Services
Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
(3rd Wednesday is Business Meeting)
GA's, RA's, Mission Friends,
Youth *Switch* Service
- 7:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

February Activities

- 1 9:00 am Stitching with Love Ministry
- 3 4:00 pm Meet & Greet Chili Supper with Michael & Sheri Luce
- 4 8:00 am Deacon's Meeting
- 4 Sunday Services—Michael Luce preaching in view of a call
- 6 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study
- 7 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal
- 7 6:30 pm Wednesday Midweek Services
- 10 8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10 5:00 pm Sr. Outing to 16th Section Baptist McRae
- 11 Sunday Services
- 13 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study
- 14 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal
- 14 6:30 pm Wednesday Midweek Services
- 17 9:00 am Women's Prayer Breakfast
- 18 Sunday Services—Brian Arnold for Morning Worship
- 18 12:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting
- 20 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study - Sr. Saints Fellowship with Doug Lowe
- 20 6:00 pm VBS Children's Meeting
- 21 10:00 am Home Extension Club Meeting
- 21 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal
- 21 6:30 pm Wednesday Night Midweek Services—Business Meeting
- 23-25 Girls' Radiant Retreat—Camp Siloam
- 25 Sunday Services
- 27 10:00 am Tuesday Bible Study
- 28 5:45 pm Wednesday Night Meal
- 28 6:30 pm Wednesday Night Midweek Services



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Please use the following contact info when the church office is closed on weekends and holidays.

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Ernie Hesterly, Music Director
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Recent videos of Zion Hill's Sunday services can be viewed at www.zionhillcabot.com/sermons

Meet & Greet
*New faces. new stories.
endless possibilities*

MICHAEL & SHERI LUCE

Come enjoy a warm bowl of chili and use this time to meet the Luce's, who are coming to ZHBC in view of a call to be our next pastor!

FEBRUARY 03, 2024
4:00-6:00PM
11923 ZION HILL RD
CABOT, AR 72023