

Guest Speaker: Pastor Mike Sanders, Vision Church Huntington Beach

Message Summary: The highest honor that can be conferred on any man is to say that Jesus loves him. Yet this is an honor which all may possess, but which none can inherit without His Spirit and without loving God first. It is an honor for us to love one another as He has loved us. Pastor Mike gives us encouraging ways to experience God's love and express God's love to others.

I Am Loved

John 13:23

1. You Can't Give What You Have Not Received

1 John 4:19 - *"We love each other because He loved us first."*

2. Be Loved

1 John 3a - *"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are..."*

3. Be the Beloved

Matthew 10:7-8 - *"Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!"*

1 John 4:7, 11 - *"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."*

LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS

BEGIN IT (5 min) Time spent praising the Lord with opening prayer.

OPEN IT (10min) Pastor Mike shared his story about telling Emily he loved her for the first time. Share about your experience of telling someone you loved them, how did it go?

EXPLORE IT (60 min)

1. The apostle John gave himself the title "The disciple whom Jesus loves." Was it because he was able to see and receive the love Jesus had towards him? Why?
2. Would you give yourself this same title as John, or do you struggle to see yourself as loved by Jesus? Explain why or why not.
3. According to **1 John 4:19** - We love each other because He first loved us - Why is receiving God's love so important for us to be able to love those around us?
4. Why is it important for us to see ourselves as loved children of God?
5. How can you allow Jesus to love you through your challenges or shortcomings?

APPLY IT (15 min) Freely we have received so much from Jesus, especially His love.

- How can you be the BELOVED this week and give what you have received?