




**Now, Where
Were We?**



$$2+2 = 22$$



Now, In A Believer's Life ...

- Most of us have been saved for a really long time, and we have learned a lot of stuff and our lives have been changed
- So, based on your experience of being saved all these years, what is the most important thing we all know a faithful Christian is supposed to do on at least a weekly basis?
- Go to church on Sunday morning, sit in rows and listen to the preacher up front give an inspiring talk to help you do better and try harder.



BUT Now We Are Learning

- That the most important thing, the one thing above everything else that a disciple of Jesus is supposed to do at least on a weekly basis and hopefully even more often is
- Love those around you the way Jesus loves us, and even become friends to SINNERS
- And most of the time, most of those people will be found where
- NOT IN CHURCH IN SUNDAY MORNING!



Shout Out to John Alexander

TWIST



For All Practical Purposes

- For most of our lives we have been believing the spiritual equivalent of $2+2=22$
- That the most important thing a Christian can do every week is go to a building and sit in rows and stare at the back of the head of the person in front of you and listen to someone give a talk, then come back next week and do it all again.
- But Jesus, in His final commandment, said we are to *love others the way he loves us.*



Filled with Divine Life - Love

- **God's love is not just something we receive to make us feel special**
- **God's love is something we BECOME**
- **HIS PLAN, OUR DESTINY, IS TO BECOME THE LOVE OF GOD WALKING AROUND ON EARTH**
- **As much as we study and practice, we can't make that happen,**
- **but His love in us can, as the Holy Spirit lives in us and loves us just like the Father does with the Son**

What Does That Look Like?



What If It Looks Like This?





Life Together

- **12** Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with a heart of mercy,^[i] kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, **13** bearing with one another and forgiving^[j] one another, if someone happens to have^[k] a complaint against anyone else. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also forgive others.^[l] **14** And to all these^[m] virtues^[n] add^[o] love, which is the perfect bond.^[p]



Love Is Action in Real Life

15 Let the peace of Christ be in control in your heart (**for you were in fact called as one body^[a] to this peace**), and be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ^[r] dwell in you richly, **teaching and exhorting one another** with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, all with grace^[s] in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



Ready For Our Close Up?

- As you studied these verses this week, what jumped out at you and made you go Hmmmm or Ahhh or OUCH or Wow?
- How is the Colossians 3 picture different than what goes on in the American Church
- At CRF, are we experiencing some of these things already? Which ones and how well?
- Which ones are we not experiencing, and why?



Good News, YOU ARE

- **deeply loved by God,**
- **fully accepted by God,**
- **completely and permanently forgiven by God,**
- **lavishly blessed by God,**
- **and eternally, perfectly embraced by God**
as his child; a child who brings Him
unspeakable JOY