

SERMON NOTES

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Crossroads Christian Church

Feb. 9, 2014

Message: “UNEXPLAINABLE LOVE”

Text: 2 John 1-13

“UNEXPLAINABLE LOVE”

CENTRAL THOUGHT: True love cannot be _____; it has to be _____.

1. True Love Will Bring You _____. 2 John 4

2. True Love Will Come With _____. 2 John 7

3. True Love Will Take More Than _____. 2 John 12

Philippians 2:6-7

John 15:13-14

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PRACTICAL | application to my life

1. Think of the different relationships in your life (marriage, family, co-workers, friends, neighbors, employer, etc.). How would you describe the state of your heart in these relationships? What's your love tank level reading at? Explain why you marked where you did.

Empty _____ 1/4 _____ 1/2 _____ 3/4 _____ Full
(bitter, hard heart) (a warm heart, demonstrating love)

What can you do to put yourself in the best position, as Paul writes in Philippians 1, to “abound in love”?

PRAYER REQUESTS

COMING SOON

Tim Hawkins Comedy Concert | Sunday, Feb. 16



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CONNECT GROUP HOMEWORK

Connect Groups are sermon-based small groups that meet primarily in homes.
To join a group, visit crossroadschristian.org/connect.

For the week of Feb. 9, 2014.

QUICK REVIEW:

Looking back at your notes from this week's message, "Unexplainable Love," was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

HISTORICAL | getting to know me

1. One of the quotes from Sunday's message was "true love cannot be defined; it has to be experienced." Knowing that a completely accurate definition is impossible, what words would you use to best describe what true love is?

When have you been the recipient of "unexplainable" love? What does this kind of love do to us?

BIBLICAL | digging deeper into the Bible

1. In the first six verses of 2 John the words "truth" and "love" are both used five times. Many people today see these terms as mutually exclusive, that you're either truthful or loving, but not both. Scripture paints a different picture. As you read the following verses write down how the Bible describes the relationship between truth and love.

- **1 TIMOTHY 1:5**
- **1 CORINTHIANS 13:6**
- **EPHESIANS 4:15**
- **1 JOHN 5:2**

Would you identify yourself as someone whose truth needs to be balanced by love or whose love needs to be balanced by truth? Explain.

What can you do to gain a better balance?

2. We learned Sunday that true love will come with opposition. What did Jesus warn us in John 15:18-20? Have you ever experienced treatment like this from the world? If so, describe what that was like.

Facing opposition can be difficult but Scripture gives us truths that help to put things in perspective and give us a greater understanding of what's really at work. What do the following verses teach us?

- **ACTS 13:49-50** (read Acts 13:44-52 for a broader context of Paul and Barnabas' ministry in Antioch)

- **1 THESSALONIANS 4:8**

3. True love is more than words. It must be lived out in our actions and lifestyle. As believers we are called to demonstrate true love so others can experience who God is. Read 1 John 3:11-18 and jot down your observations on what true love looks like.

How do we know what love is (vs. 16)?

How is love practically demonstrated (vs. 17)?

How might we insulate ourselves so we never "see" a need?