

May 1, 2022

## Love Like Jesus

By Michael Hickox

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
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## Services

### Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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**Elders:** Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

**Deacons:** John Frost, Dave Goff,  
Roger Sholders

*Visitors are welcome*

*We offer Bible classes for all ages*

*We also offer in-home Bible studies*

We have Bible lessons on the radio  
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

**Ephesians 5:2** commands, “*walk in love, even as Christ also loved us and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling fragrance.*”

By denying His own comforts and perfectly submitting to the Father’s will, Jesus exemplified love for the Father (cf. **1 John 5:3**). Like Our Savior, we must deny ourselves in order to obey the Father’s commands.

Obeying God *includes* showing love to *others* by denying our comforts and pleasures as needed to do what is beneficial for them.

**Philippians 2:4** commands “***Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.***” The very next verse says, “***Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus***” (verse 5).

While on earth, Jesus time and again made decisions based on the Father’s will and the needs of others, instead of only considering what was comfortable for Himself. This shows the depth of His command in **John 13:34: *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also love one another.***

May we heed this command, and love like our Savior.

# “Let Love Be Without Hypocrisy”

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**Romans 12:9** commands, “*Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.*”

Love is not described by God as an “uncontrollable feeling,” but something He commands us to *choose* and put into *action* (**John 13:34**; **1 John 3:16-18**). When directed toward others, it involves a choice to seek others’ highest good.

The phrase “*without hypocrisy*” in **Romans 12:9** indicates that the love we show others must be *sincere*. We must not just pretend to love others, but truly care for their well-being.

One application of this principle involves the way we approach those in spiritual danger.

Notice how Mark’s account of the rich young ruler describes Jesus. **Mark 10:21** says, “*Jesus looking at him loved him, and said to him, ‘One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me, taking up the cross.’*”

While hypocritical love would have told the rich young ruler what he *wanted* to hear, it’s clear from the ruler’s reaction (**verse 22**) that Jesus told him something he did *not* want to hear. Because of Jesus’ *genuine* concern for the man’s

soul, He told him what he *needed* to hear.

As Jesus walked the earth, He never approved (or pretended to approve) of sin. He was not spiteful in His approach, but He also did not sugar-coat truth.

The wisdom of the world may teach that it is hateful to rebuke someone for doing what “makes them happy,” regardless of whether such is in accordance with God’s commands.

Scripture teaches otherwise. While many “attack the messenger” when sin is pointed out (cf. **Gal. 4:16**), sincere love will point it out anyway when it’s appropriate to do so (and in the *manner* that’s appropriate).

There are times when patting someone on the back and encouraging him or her to “keep at it” is a demonstration of sincere love. Responding to current sin in the lives of others is not one of those times.

May we *sincerely* put others’ well-being ahead of our own comfort zone, and may we remember “*that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins*” (**James 5:20**).

## God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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## Words to Consider

***“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.”***

– Lamentations 3:21-25 (ESV)

## Prayer List

Holly G  
Jerry & Sandy S  
Cheryl S  
Norma C  
Raymond B  
Robert C  
Sharon G (Cancer)  
Doans' Grandson, Wilson  
Devin D (Cancer)  
Vicki S (Cancer)  
Susan F (Cancer)  
Christie's Brother, Jerry (Lung Cancer)  
Travis' Co-worker's Daughter, Kacie  
Marci B & Family

## Daily Bible Reading

May 1 – 1 Kings 10-11; Luke 21:20-38  
May 2 – 1 Kings 12-13; Luke 22:1-30  
May 3 – 1 Kings 14-15; Luke 22:31-46  
May 4 – 1 Kings 16-18; Luke 22:47-71  
May 5 – 1 Kings 19-20; Luke 23:1-25  
May 6 – 1 Kings 21-22; Luke 23:26-56  
May 7 – 2 Kings 1-3; Luke 24:1-35

***“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”***

– Proverbs 3:5 (ESV)

### **Prayer Leaders**

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Bible Study: John

Worship: Dave

Evening: Larry

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Dan D

### **Clean Building**

Janice

### **Prepare Communion**

Janice

### **Upcoming Reminders**

**Wednesday (4<sup>th</sup>) adult class:**

*Ephesians 4:4ff*

**Next Sunday (8<sup>th</sup>) adult class:**

*Effective Bible Study*

### **Assignments**

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Reading: Dan D

Announcements: Dave

Table: Jeff

Serve: Dan H

Darrell

Mike

Travis

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Invitation: Mike

### **Anniversaries**

May 30 – Larry & Patsy

### **Birthdays**

May 4 – Lovetta

May 10 – John

May 23 – Jeanette