

ONE SACRIFICE

For the week of December 13, 2020

Full message available at highpoint.church/currentseries

1 John 3:16-22

16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? **18** Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. **19** By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; **20** for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. **21** Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; **22** and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

MESSAGE POINTS:

1. Sacrifice is **Known** by Christ's Love (vs. 16)
2. Sacrifice is **Shown** by Our Deeds (vs. 17-18)
3. Sacrifice is **Grown** in Our Heart (vs. 19-22)

GOAL:

To be so captivated by Christ's sacrifice that our whole witness is transformed.

GET GOING:

- What are some of the great stories of sacrifice (fiction or nonfiction) that have inspired you?
- How does this passage reaffirm your faith and challenge you to action?
- How many times is the word heart used in this passage? Why do you think that John and ultimately God is so concerned with our heart?
- Look at verse 17. What does generosity look like in your life?
- Look at verse 18. What are some practical ways you can love "in deed"?
- Do you sometimes doubt that you are a Christian? What evidence do you see in this passage that would show genuine faith in the life of a believer?
- Look at verse 21-22. What does it mean to have confidence before God? How does this transform the way that we interact with God and our world?

KEEP GROWING:

- Turn to Matthew 22:34-40
- What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul and mind?
- What sacrifice would you have to make to love God in this way?
- On a scale from 1-10 how are you doing at loving your neighbor?
- How did Jesus demonstrate love and sacrifice for God and others in His time on Earth?
- What can you do this Christmas season to grow in your love for God?
- What can you specifically do to demonstrate love to your neighbor?
- What can we do as a church to better demonstrate love for each other?

GET GROUNDED:

- Is sacrifice difficult for you when it comes to your faith?
- What specifically do you need to sacrifice unto God to grow your faith?
- Do you have anything that you need to confess to God or to someone else?
- Take a minute to discuss how you can hold one another accountable and encourage each other throughout the week.

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 4:23 "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life."