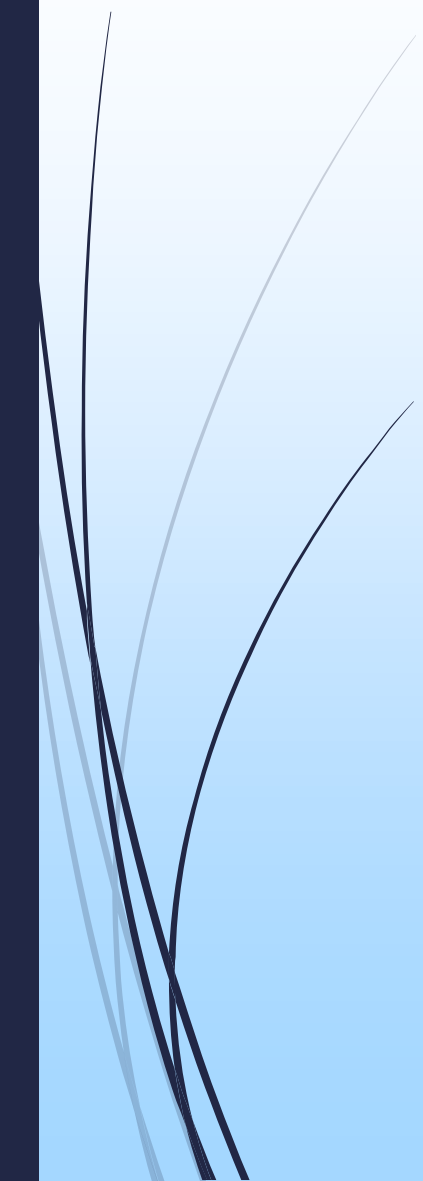




Winsome Community

Building Community by Love
(Saturday evening)



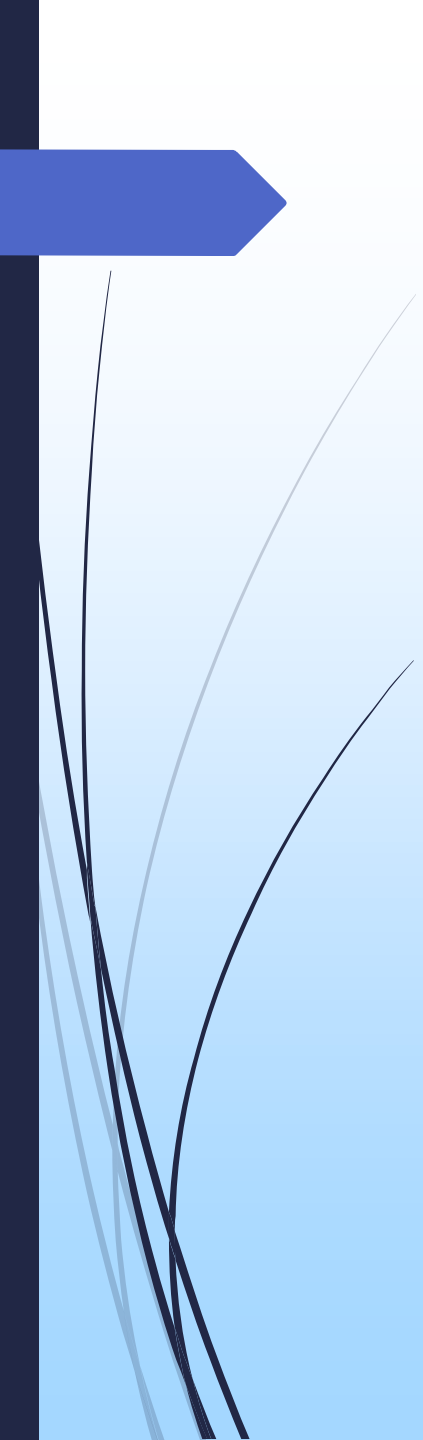


*Imagine there's no countries. It isn't
hard to do.*

*Nothing to kill and die for, and no
religion too.*

*Imagine all the people living life in
peace...*

*Imagine no possessions. I wonder if
you can.*



*No need for greed or hunger, a
brotherhood of man.*

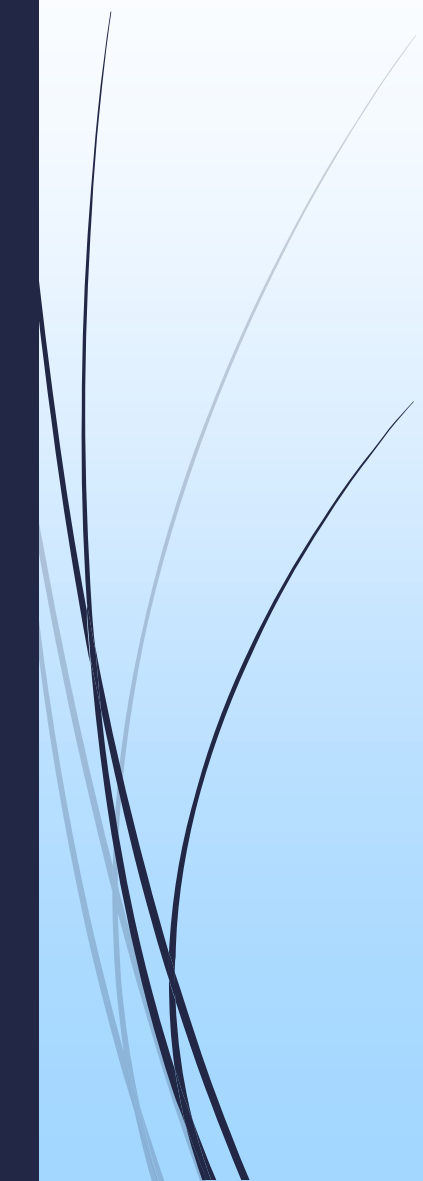
*Imagine all the people sharing all the
world*

*You say I'm a dreamer. But I'm not
the only one*

*I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will live as one.*



Two Questions



What does love look like in our
life together?

How do we cultivate it?

What does love look like?

Romans 8:9-13

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.



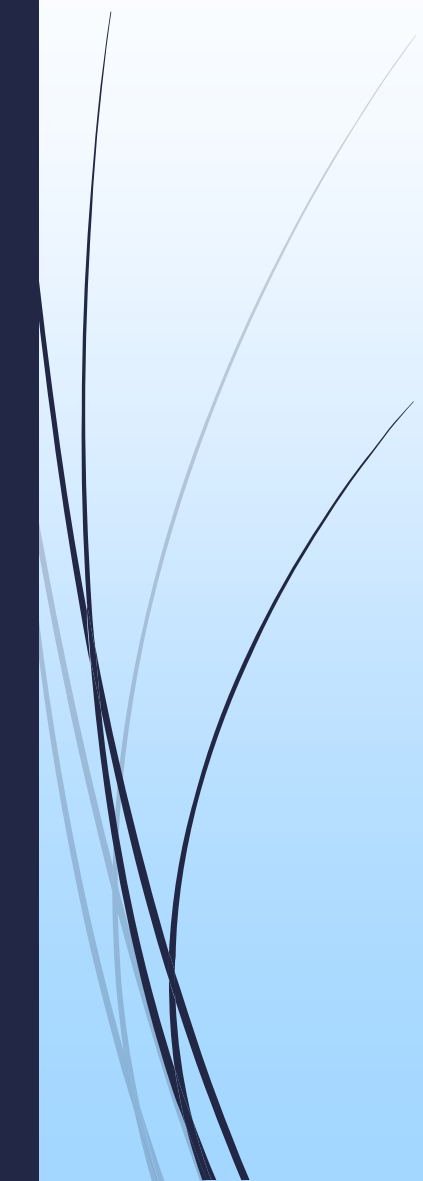
Three qualities of Jesus' love

- Ethical
 - Warm
 - Respectful
- 



Jesus love is ethical

*v. 9: Abhor what is evil; hold fast
to what is good*



Ethical (cont.)

“Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you;... and, from now on, sin no more.” (John 8:10-11).

“Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” (Luke 19:8)



Ethical (cont.)

Wanting people to like us.





Jesus' love is warm

v. 10a: Love one another with brotherly affection

v.15: Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

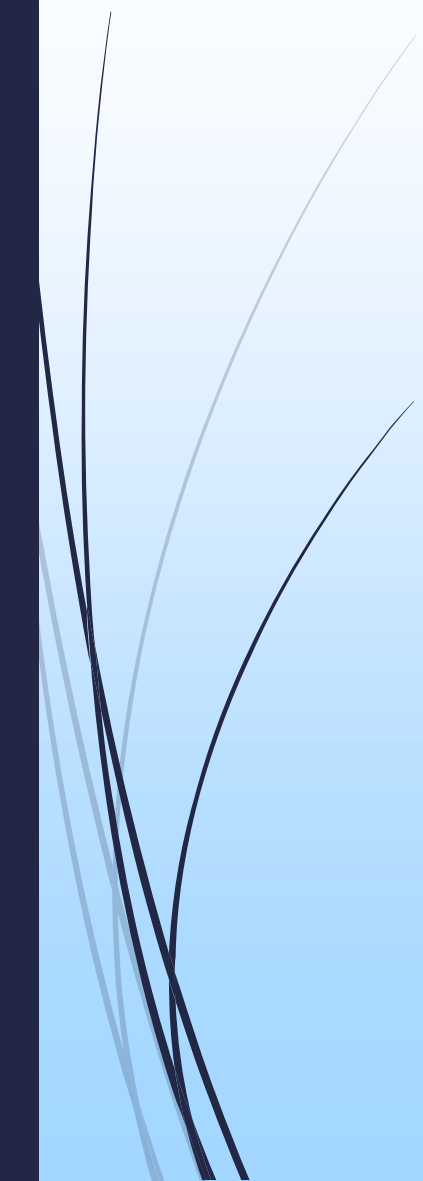


Warm (cont.)

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it. How often I would have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing” (Matt. 23:37).



Warm (cont.)

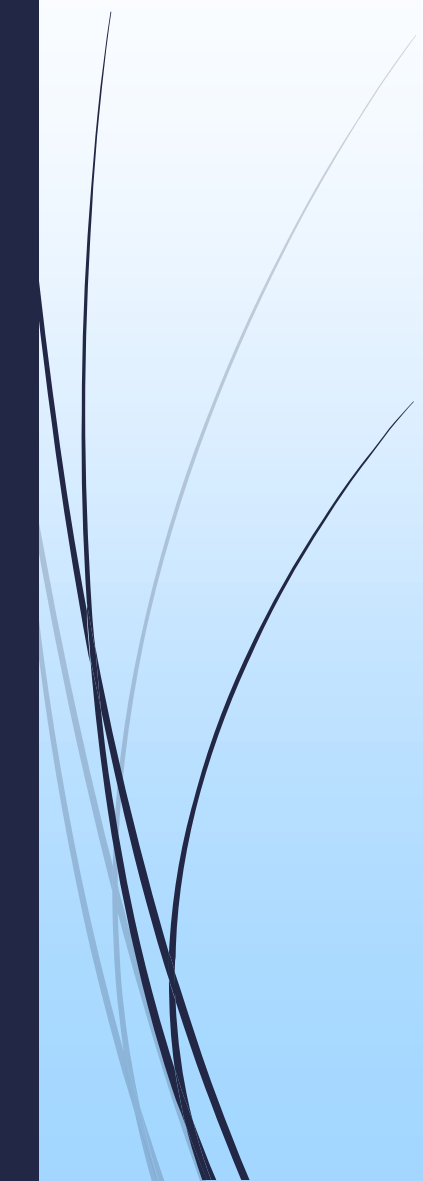


Thinking of someone we don't
like



Jesus' love is respectful

Outdo one another in showing honor (v. 10b).





Respectful (cont.)

- Jesus and Nicodemus
- Jesus and Peter
- Jesus and the woman with the *flow of blood.*



Respectful (cont.)

Imagine... *outdoing one another in showing honor:*

- ...where the only “competition” is over...
- ...continuous and genuine



Respectful (cont.)

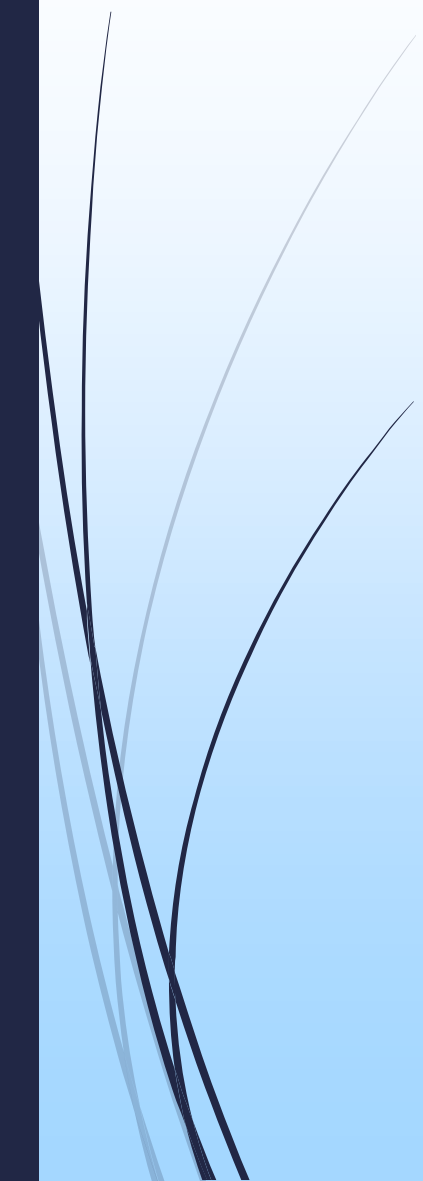

Thinking of people we disagree with.

- Always in 3-D
- Never condescending



Respectful (cont.)

“Knowingness is an intellectual vice that leads one to believe that they already know everything worth knowing... Liberals must mobilize against hate and intolerance, but they don’t need knowingly to mock people they disagree with...”



If we are serious about defending democracy, we shouldn't waste our time convincing ourselves of how much better we are than the people we disagree with or fear. (Prof. Jeff Frank, *The Hill*, 2/17/24)



Final thoughts

- Social surprise
- Jesus among us
- *We love because God first loved us (1 Jn. 4:19)*