

# The Facilitator

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Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

9/2/18

**Text: Romans 12:9-10 (ESV)**

**Title: Genuine Love**

**Teacher: David Springer**

## **Surrender through Prayer:**

*Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.*

## **Engage with the Sermon**

*Read the passage together*

In his sermon, David walked us through Romans 12:9-10, as we looked at the call on the church to love one another with Genuine, self-sacrificing love. As he said, the way we are called to treat one another as a spiritual family is both “other-worldly”; so different and genuine compared to the way the world loves, and, that it truly is not of this world; we cannot love the way God calls us to out of our own strength or will. We can only give true, genuine love when we have truly received God’s genuine love for us through His spirit. Romans 12 does not stand alone, it comes after 11 chapters of God declaring our need for Him, and His plan to save us from our pitiful state, all because of His great love for us. By laying hold of God’s love, shown most clearly in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, we are able to love the family of God that He has given us, and display the gospel to one another, and to an unbelieving world that desperately needs Jesus.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. *David said genuine love is not selfish or self-seeking.*
  - ***How have you experienced genuine, selfless love in your life?***
  - ***In contrast, when have you loved/served someone simply to get what you want from them?***
2. *David said that genuine love is discerning of good and evil, starting with God’s standard rather than our own, and starting with the sin in our own hearts, rather than what’s in the hearts of other people.*
  - ***How have you used someone’s sin or brokenness as a reason not to love them?***
  - ***How does starting with your own sin & brokenness keep you from being unloving?***
3. *David said that genuine love is affectionate. Christianity is the only religion that calls people to love their “spiritual family” as much or more than their genetic families.*
  - ***How have you experienced the love of your spiritual family?***
  - ***What keeps you from loving the family of God? What Christian brother or sister is hardest for you to love? Why?***

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## **WORSHIP AND PRAYER:**

### **A.C.T.S.**

*(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)*

**1. ADORATION** *(The Father)*

**Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions**

**2. CONFESSION** *(Me)*

**Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited**

**3. THANKSGIVING** *(Jesus)*

**Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)**

**4. SUPPLICATION** *(Holy Spirit)*

**Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways**

**5. Prepare for Gospel Community** *(My Neighbor)*

**Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.**

### **Prayer Items**

- 1. Worship the LORD as the source of love. Recognize that He is love and loves us perfectly.*
- 2. In what ways is your love hypocritical? Confess the inconsistencies in our love for God and love for others.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus for His loving pursuit of you. Thank Him for 1) inviting us to cling to Him, 2) welcoming us into His family, and 3) experiencing dishonor so that we could receive honor.*
- 4. In what ways are you normalizing sin? What evil within you and around you needs to be confronted?*
- 5. Do you enjoy being around the body of Christ? What are some steps you can take to value and honor the community of believers that God has called you to?*