I LOVE MY CHURCH

John 13:34–35 | Acts 2:42–47

READ

Main Passage: John 13:34–35 | Acts 2:42–47

Supporting Scriptures: Acts 1:3; Matthew 16:18; Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 2:17; 1 John 4:21; Revelation 7:9; 1 John 4:19; Ephesians 4:32.

KEY POINTS

- Build a Relationship with Jesus (Love God) – Our love for others begins with receiving and being transformed by the love Jesus has shown us.
- Put Down Roots with His People (Love People) – Church is more than a place we attend; it is a family with whom we share life, practice forgiveness, and take responsibility
- Take Your Place in His Mission (Share Jesus) – Every believer has a part to play in helping people find and follow Jesus through love, service, generosity, and witness.
- Move from Consumer to Contributor – Participate in church by getting to know the people around you, find an area to serve, join a group, attend a church event, help care for the people God has placed within your reach.
- Let Your Devotion Shape Your Life – Our calendars, resources, relationships, and choices reveal what matters most to us.

QUESTIONS

1. When you think of a church that feels like home, what people or experiences come to mind? What did their love teach you about Jesus?
2. Jesus says the world will recognize His disciples by their love (John 13:34–35). Where is it easiest for you to show that love, and where is it most difficult? What steps are you taking to show love to people even when it's difficult?
3. Acts 2 describes believers sharing life, praying, learning, eating together, and meeting needs. Which part of that picture is most present in your life right now, and which part is missing?
4. When you think about your place in a church, do you tend to approach it more as a consumer or a contributor? What habits, expectations, or fears might be shaping that posture?
5. Loving the church may look like loving imperfect people, forgiving, and protecting unity. Is there a relationship or disappointment that is making you want to pull away? What would a Christlike next step look like while still honoring healthy boundaries?

6. What does your current use of time, money, and energy reveal about your devotion? What is one specific change that would give Jesus and His people a more intentional place in your week?

7. Who is one person God has placed within your reach who may need encouragement, belonging, or an invitation to follow Jesus? What concrete step will you take toward them this week?

LIFE APPLICATION

- Prioritize building a relationship with Jesus – Building a relationship with Jesus builds your understanding of His heart for you and His heart for others. Spend intentional time in scripture and prayer this week, asking Jesus to shape the way you love others.

- Put down roots – Take one step toward being known and knowing others: join a group, invite someone to a meal, serve alongside someone and get connected.

- Continuously pray for one more person –If you have experienced the love and grace of God, take the time to share that with others. Pray for one person by name and look for an opportunity to encourage them and invite them to church.

- Audit your devotion – Look at your calendar and resources, then make one practical adjustment that reflects your commitment to Jesus and His church.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for loving us first and bringing us into Your family. Help us love one another as You have loved us. Grow us deeper in You, teach us to put down roots with Your people, and show us how to serve the people You have placed within our reach. Reveal where we have been living as consumers instead of contributors, and give us courage to take our place in Your mission. May our devotion to You shape our time, resources, relationships, and choices. Help our church reflect Your love so others may find and follow You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.