PASTORS

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Our website:
https://scarboroughbaptist.com

Details for your offering:
(Our bank - CBS - uses the Post Office for transactions - you will need to use a special deposit slip - Ask Anne/Sarah)

SERMONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Branch number 704- 922
Account number 1000 19866

Message on the message

In Mark 12, we're told that a religious teacher of the law asked Jesus what the most important commandment was. Jesus replied that the most important commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' He went on to add that the second most important commandment was to "love your neighbour as yourself." No other commandment, said Jesus, was more important than these.

The teacher who had asked the question agreed with Jesus, adding that to do this was more important "than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law." Mark tells us that Jesus, realising how much the man understood, told the teacher of the law that he wasn't far from the kingdom of God.

God's Kingdom is a place where love rules. We serve the God who is love. For all eternity; Father, Son and Spirit have existed in a relationship of deep and abiding love. And Genesis 1 tells us that God created humanity in His image: we were made to be like the God who is love; we were meant to live in a community of love with God and with each other. But we live in a world marred by sin. A world where God's love was scorned, and where relationships are soured. True, love exists – but we are become a people focused on ourselves rather than others. We look out for our own interests, even if at the expense of others. True love is so often sacrificed on the altar of our own self-actualisation.

Yet God is love – and in love, God has acted to reconcile us to Himself. Jesus has acted to bring us back into right relationship with the Father. One day, He will return, and the universe will be remade – a place that reflects the loving character of God. The Kingdom is a kingdom of love, and God's church is an enclave of the Kingdom in this day and age. It is to be a place marked by deep and genuine love – a place that reflects who Jesus is.

The church hasn't always lived up to this vision – but when it does… it is a powerful testimony to the world of what God intends for humanity. What if reaching the world with the good news starts with the way that we love one another?

John 13:31-34
31 As soon as Judas left the room, Jesus said, “The time has come for the
Son of Man to enter into his glory, and God will be glorified because of
him. 32 And since God receives glory because of the Son, he will give his
own glory to the Son, and he will do so at once. 33 Dear children, I will be
with you only a little longer. And as I told the Jewish leaders, you will
search for me, but you can’t come where I am going. 34 So now I am
giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved
you, you should love each other.

1 John 4:7-12
7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from
God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 8 But anyone
who does not love does not know God, for God is love.
9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son
into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. 10 This is
real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son
as a sacrifice to take away our sins.
11 Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love
each other. 12 No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God
lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.

Acts 2:42-47
42 All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to
fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to
prayer.
43 A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed
many miraculous signs and wonders. 44 And all the believers met
together in one place and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their
property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. 46
They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the
Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— 47
all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people.
And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being
saved.

Hebrews 10:23-25
23 Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can
be trusted to keep his promise. 24 Let us think of ways to motivate one
another to acts of love and good works. 25 And let us not neglect our
meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another,
especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

“To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.”
— C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.
John 13: 35

PRAYER

- Pray for our Scott and Bek Falconer and the children
- Pray for our older folk - for Iris, Joy, Sylvia, Bob, Rosemary and Hilary
- Pray for the other churches in our area
- Pray for those in our church and families who are struggling with sickness
- Pray for our young adults’ group

ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY
S@6 on Sunday evening
MONDAY
BIBLE STUDIES
1.15pm and 7pm @ the church
TUESDAY
CRAFT group 9 - 11.30
WEDNESDAY
Prayer in Marriage next week 7pm
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
MAINLY MUSIC at 10.30