



PART 1: WHO WE ARE
The Chapel

September 8, 2024
Dave Gustavsen

OPENER:

How have you experienced or observed the increased division in our culture? How has it affected your relationships?

1. In John 13:34, Jesus says: **“A new command I give you: Love one another.”** How does the definition of love as "the loyal, sacrificial pursuit of another person's well-being" differ from how love is often understood in our culture today?
2. Which part of Jesus' example of love (loyalty, sacrifice, or pursuit) do you find hardest to practice? Why?
3. **John 15:5** says, **“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”** What specific habits help you remain rooted in Him, so that you can love others as Jesus commands?
4. **John 13:35** says, **“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another”** How can the way we love each other as a church influence how people view Christianity? Do your actions reflect this “brand identity” of Jesus? How can we make our love more visible to others?
5. **Romans 15:6** says that acting like a family and showing grace glorifies God and brings Him joy. How does this affect how you handle conflicts and acceptance within the church? What can your small group do to show this grace and strengthen unity?

APPLICATION: Choose 1 or 2 to discuss.

1. What are one or two specific ways that your small group or The Chapel can work towards healing and unity in our community?
2. Think of a relationship where it's hard to show love. What practical steps can you take to apply Jesus' example of loyal, sacrificial love in that situation?
3. How has being part of a church family impacted your life? How can we help others experience this sense of belonging in the year ahead?