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SUNDAY MESSAGE NOTES AND INTERACTIVE PDF

Perfected in Love

The Father's love received through Christ becomes the love we live by as we yield to His Word and Spirit.

SERMON TITLE	MINISTER
Perfected in Love	Pastor Jason Gillick
DATE	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Sunday, October 11, 2026	John 17:20-26 ; 1 John 4:7-19

TOPICS [Love](#) | [Holy Spirit](#) | [Word of God](#) | [Guarding the Heart](#) | [Identity in Christ](#)

NOTES

Truth to carry into the week.

01 Receive the love the Father has shown you.

- Jesus prayed that the world would know the Father loves His people as He loves His Son. We do not have to earn a place in that love: Christ gave Himself for us while we were still sinners. Let His sacrifice settle what circumstances and personal performance cannot tell you about the Father's heart. ([John 17:23](#); [Romans 5:6-8](#))
- Receiving His love changes where we place our confidence. Instead of trying to prove that we deserve His goodness, we can come to Him through Jesus and receive the fellowship Christ has opened to us. Bring the places where you feel unworthy before the Father and let His Word establish your assurance. ([John 17:20-26](#); [Romans 5:8-11](#))

"The proof is that He sent His own Son to die for us. That actually shows you the extent of His love."

STUDY [John 17:20-26](#); [Romans 5:6-11](#)

02 Live from the love He has placed within you.

- The Holy Spirit has poured God's love into our hearts. In Christ we have been made new, so love is more than a standard we struggle to reach in our own strength. His Spirit supplies what we need to respond from the nature of Christ rather than from the habits of our former life. ([Romans 5:5](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#))
- That new life calls for a willing response. When impatience, resentment, or selfishness surfaces, bring it before the Lord and yield to the truth He shows you. We grow as we receive His Word and depend on His Spirit to put it into practice in the way we treat people. ([1 John 4:7-13](#))

"We have been created to love like Christ loves."

STUDY [Romans 5:5](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#); [1 John 4:7-13](#)

03 Keep your heart close to Him.

- Jesus warned that love can grow cold. That change can happen gradually as pressure and competing affections draw our attention away from the Lord. Guarding the heart means continuing to receive His Word and giving Him access to the responses we might otherwise excuse. ([Matthew 24:12](#); [Psalm 119:130](#))
- When you notice your affection cooling, respond honestly instead of allowing distance to become normal. Turn your attention back to Him and receive the light His Word brings. Staying sensitive to His heart prepares us to seek another person's good when our first impulse is to protect ourselves. ([Psalm 119:130](#); [John 17:26](#))

"I'm going to be moved by the things that move God's heart."

STUDY [Matthew 24:12](#); [Psalm 119:130](#); [John 17:26](#)

04 Let His love lead you into holiness.

- God's love does not make sin harmless. Jesus showed mercy to the woman caught in adultery and told her to sin no more. His forgiveness opened a way forward; receiving His love includes receiving the truth that calls us out of the things that have held us captive. ([John 8:10-11](#))
- The Word exposes what needs to change and the Holy Spirit helps us obey. Bring the attitude or habit He identifies into the light rather than defending it. We honor His mercy by yielding to His correction and taking the step of obedience His truth requires. ([Jeremiah 23:29](#); [1 John 4:7-19](#))

"Love only wins in God and in his standards of righteousness and holiness."

STUDY [John 8:10-11](#); [Jeremiah 23:29](#); [1 John 4:7-19](#)

05 Let assurance replace fear.

- First John connects love being perfected in us with confidence before God. Jesus bore what we could not bear and reconciled us to the Father. Our assurance rests in His finished work, so fear of rejection does not have to govern our relationship with Him. ([1 John 4:14-19](#); [Romans 5:8-11](#))
- Confidence in His love allows an honest response when He corrects us. We can acknowledge what needs to change without running from the One who gave His Son for us. Receive His love as strength for obedience and let that assurance help you extend patience and mercy to others. ([1 John 4:16-19](#))

“We have been given the ability to love like our Heavenly Father.”

STUDY [1 John 4:14-19](#); [Romans 5:8-11](#)

06 Carry His love into the pressure of life.

- Romans 8 names real distress, persecution, and danger while declaring that none of them can separate us from God’s love in Christ. Difficulty does not erase what the Father has done for us. Keep His truth before you when pressure tries to persuade you that He has become distant. ([Romans 8:31-39](#))
- The love we receive also changes how we see other people. We can ask the Lord to help us respond from His heart instead of from hurt or defensiveness. Choose the response that reflects Christ: forgive, seek another person’s good, and keep walking in the love He has given you. ([1 John 4:11-12](#))

“When you start stepping into this place of love, you start seeing others in a different light.”

STUDY [Romans 8:31-39](#); [1 John 4:11-12](#)

SCRIPTURE INDEX - NKJV

Read the Word in context.

Psalm 119:130	Jeremiah 23:29	Ezekiel 36:26
Matthew 3:17	Matthew 24:12	Matthew 24:35
Mark 9:24	Luke 9:35	Luke 23:34
John 3:16	John 8:10-11	John 14:6, 9
John 17:20-26	John 18:38	Romans 5:5-11
Romans 8:31-39	2 Corinthians 5:17, 21	Ephesians 5:27
Colossians 1:13	Hebrews 13:5	1 John 4:7-19
2 Corinthians 6:16	Isaiah 64:6	

How will His love shape your life?

Where have you been measuring the Father's love by circumstances or performance? What does Christ's sacrifice establish instead?

Which distraction or offense has begun to cool your affection for the Lord? How will you draw near to Him this week?

What correction is the Lord bringing to your attention? What specific obedience will follow your response?

In which relationship do you need to respond from His love? Describe the action you will take rather than the reaction you will leave behind.
