

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am not always loving toward others.

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

#### Encourage one another

- Romans 1:12
- 1 Thessalonians 4:18; 5:11
- Hebrews 10:24,25

#### Teach/Instruct one another

- Romans 15:14

#### The importance of unity

- Romans 12:5
- Ephesians 4:25
- 1 John 1:7

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

#### How to handle sin

- Ephesians 4:32
- Colossians 3:13
- James 5:16

#### We are **not** to \_\_\_\_\_ one another

- **envy** - Galatians 5:26
- **lie to** - Colossians 3:9
- **slander** - James 4:11
- **grumble against** - James 5:9

#### Called to Service & Humility

- 18 times

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

#### How do you define love?

- I am God's ambassador in your life, for your good, on His behalf, as long as I live.
  - Randy Gariss
- Love is giving others what they need the most, even when they deserve it the least.
  - Chip Ingram
- A commitment of the will to seek the best interest of others.

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

A lack of attention to love & excuse-making for non-loving actions has led to a Church that is irrelevant & meaningless for most, and at times a burden & therefore optional for many in Her.

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The people being assembled together, he first of all urges on them the benefits of mercy... Then he proceeds to add that there is nothing remarkable in cherishing mercy on our own people with the due attentions of love, but that one might become perfect who should *do something more than heathen men or publicans*, one who, overcoming evil with good, and practicing merciful kindness like that of God, should love his enemies as well... Thus the good was done to all men, not merely to the household of faith.

### What If...We Chose the Path of Love?

#### Intentional Steps:

1. Can you confess a lack of love as sin?
  1. ...specifically...in community
2. Change some thinking...
  1. Not the best church in the community.
  2. Be the best church for the community.
3. A focus here...
  1. Valuing what we do...
  2. Praying for guidance in how to meet needs...
  3. What is my part...
4. Realize love is not convenient.