



Loving Jesus, Loving People, Plowing a Counter-Culture

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 11:1-15

MAIN POINT: Loving Christians express the love of Christ, explain the truth of Christ, and expose the enemy.

FOR DISCUSSION:

[1] Name a time where you experienced a difficult season of ministry in your life. What was it, and how has God grown you as a result of that season?

[2] Which areas of your life do you vividly see as a place of ministry for you?

[3] Read Acts 18:5-11. Have you ever found yourself disappointed to a response you received on behalf of the Gospel? How does this response from Paul encourage you?

[4] What do you think are some examples of what Paul means by an “alternate Jesus, Spirit, and Gospel? Where might we see these things today?

[5] What aspects of the Gospel do you feel like our culture is most tempted to negotiate on? Why do you think that is?

[6] In your opinion, what is the difference between a “godly” jealousy and a “worldly” jealousy? Where have you seen examples of both?

[7] What does it look like to take “spiritual responsibility” for those around us? Do you believe that there is a line that should be drawn and, if so, where?

APPLICATION:

[1] If Satan were to take you out, where would he attack you? What areas of your life do you find most susceptible to becoming idols for you? How can you take a step to better worship God through those areas this week?

[2] Whom do you, personally, feel called to be responsible for in your life? How can you be a blessing to them this week?

GOING DEEPER:

Read Galatians 6:1-3

- What does this passage teach us about taking responsibility for others?
- What kind of implications does this have on the roles you assume in your own life (spouse, parent, child, friend, church member, etc.)?
- What would it look like for you to practice this in your own Community Group?

Memorize Romans 13:8.

- As ministers of Christ, how we grow in in our own expression of love to those who oppose us?

For Reflection:

- What is your true motivation for pursuing Jesus? Are there areas of your life where you may be attempted to accept another “hope” other than the Gospel of Christ?

For Parents:

- Discuss what it means to handle ridicule in a godly way with your children this week.
- If you’re brave enough, ask them how they’ve seen you, as a parent respond when you are frustrated by others.

PLOWS Challenge: *We believe that discipleship is life-long, ongoing and organic. Much of discipleship is based on developing the ongoing habits of a disciple of Christ. Here at Emergence, we aim to commit ourselves to the following disciplines in our walk toward Christ:*

- P** – Praying daily for Gospel opportunity
- L** – Listening to the Word of God
- O** – Openness toward others
- W** – Works of Love
- S** – Sharing your story