

Living in Love – Loving God, Loving Others

April 14, 2019

Text: Luke 15:25-32; 1 John 4:19-21

What was Jesus Attempting to Communicate?

- Jesus is both _____ and _____ his audience.
- _____ with God's true nature.

What Do We Learn from the Story's Dark Turn?

- _____ upsets the self-righteously religious.
- Self-righteously religious people play _____ games.
- Self-righteously religious people are embroiled in _____.
- The self-righteously religious _____ the other.

A Vivid Summary of the Principles

- Love is not based on our _____.
- Not loving others exposes us as _____.
- Love for God and love for others is _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Why do you think Jesus puts a dark twist at the end of the parable of the lost son?
- If you were one of the religious leaders who witnessed this episode, how do you think you would have responded? Why?
- If you were one of the social outcasts, what would you have thought about the older brother part of the story? Why?
- From your observations, does this part of the story still need to be taught in the church? Why do we (or don't we) need to hear it?
- Why do you think redemption makes self-righteous people uncomfortable?
- What is the goal of comparing our performance with that of other people?
- Why do you think our love for God and love of others is so intricately linked?
- How does a failure to love others make any profession of love for God a lie?
- What are some steps believers might take to ensure that their love for God and others is genuine?