

# **SERMON**

**DATE: Saturday/Sunday, September 15-16, 2018**

**SERIES TITLE: WHAT EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS TO KNOW**

**SERMON TITLE: How to Love People**

**SCRIPTURE: James 2:1-13**

[1] My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.

[2] Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in.

[3] If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet,"

[4] have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

[5] Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

[6] But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?

[7] Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

[8] If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.

[9] But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

[10] For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

[11] For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

[12] Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,

[13] because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

**September 15-16, 2018**  
**Title: How to Love People**

*How do we love others as we love ourselves?*

**1. Understand who they are, who you are, and who Christ is.**

- *“He that prizes the person of Christ prizes all his relatives” - Manton*
- *1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*
- *Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus*
- *1 John 4:20-21 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.*

**2. Spend time and get to know one another.**

- Make no distinctions.
- Sit together / Stand together.

**3. Learn from one another**

**4. Let God’s love and law reign in you.**

**5. Seek to please God.**

- *2 Corinthians 5:9-10 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

# Lagniappe

"What can I do to make a difference?"

Sometimes, that question is asked as if there is nothing we can do, but we can make a difference.

Here are some ways you can make a difference.

**First, spend time asking God for His blessings over your family, our state, and our country.**

Pray for the people around you. What would life be like if no one ever prayed for you? Can you imagine what you would be going through today if no one had cared for your soul? We need to pray for lives to be changed and for our family, friends, and co-workers to be saved.

**Second, seek real opportunities to care for the people around you.** Show them the love of Christ. Meet their needs with compassion. When hard times come, show up with love and help.

**Third, share the good news of Christ.** Nothing is as important for eternity as knowing Christ, and nothing is as important for today. All around us are people who have never really heard the gospel. They don't know that God will forgive them and make them new creatures. They don't know that repentance and faith will change them forever.

The Georgia Barnette Offering encompasses each of these three ways of making a difference. This offering is used to plant churches, meet the physical needs of people, and share the gospel. When we give for this offering we make a concerted effort to help those people who are right here in our state.

In your packet of offering envelopes, you received an envelope for the Georgia Barnette Offering. You can place your offering in this special envelope or you can make this special offering using your normal offering envelope.

Let us make a difference by giving and doing our best for God.