

SWEET SUMMER – LIFE FORMED BY THE SPIRIT
“ABOVE ALL-LOVE”
SPEAKER: EXECUTIVE PASTOR JOEL SANCHEZ
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INTRODUCTION

- God’s plan is that you continue growing, changing and being transformed. Don’t get stuck!
- Philippians 1:6 “He who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it...”

I. WHAT IS LOVE?

- The culture presents love as untamed passion, unbridled emotion—something you fall into and out of.
- The Bible speaks of love as something radically different.
 - Eros – romantic, passionate love.
 - Phileo, storge – brotherly love, friendship; familial love.
 - Agape – sacrificial, unconditional, selfless love.
- Galatians 5:22 tells us we should be producing *agape* love.

II. SUPREMACY OF LOVE

- 1 Corinthians 13:13 - Hope, faith and love, yet love is the greatest of them all.
- The two most important commandments are to love God and love your neighbor. All the commandments are summarized by one word...love! Matthew 22:36-39
- Love is the one quality that identifies us as disciples of Jesus. John 13:35

III. REALIZE GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU

- John 3:16 tells us that God’s motivation for sending Jesus was love.

- When I know God loves me it reminds me:
 - That He will protect me.
 - That He will provide for me.
 - That He will answer me.
 - That He will forgive me.
 - That He will heal me.
- Matthew 7:9-11, Zechariah 2:8, Romans 5:8, Psalm 139:12.

IV. LOVE THOSE WHO ARE HARD TO LOVE

- Christians can be the hardest people to love because we expect more from each other.
- Your love for others is what will draw them to Jesus. Not how smart or holy or talented you are.
- Loving your enemy doesn’t mean you have to like them. But you have to see value and worth in them as God’s creation.
- Matthew 5:43-45, “But I say, love your enemies...For He gives His sunlight to both the evil and the good...”

V. LET LOVE ANCHOR ALL YOU DO

- 1 Corinthians 16:14, “And do everything with love.”
- In what role is God calling you to be more loving-as a husband/wife, employee, caretaker, business-owner, friend, son/daughter?
- Speak with love. It’s not what you say, it’s how you say it. Ephesians 4:15.
- People can tell if you do what you do out of duty, obligation, for your ego, recognition or out of pure and sincere love.
- Your motives impact how others receive your actions.