



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact **Jill Perrin** at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org.

Peacemakers | Week #4- Love Regardless

01.

INTRODUCTION

We conclude the Peacemaker's sermon series with last activity in learning to be a Peacemaker, love regardless. When we love regardless, we love others no matter they do, no matter the circumstance, not matter the reciprocal actions. Jesus loved others unconditionally, so should we.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Describe a time when you received grace from someone else?
- Describe a time you extended grace to another?
- What do you think it means to love regardless?

Read John 18: 15-27 and John 21:15-19

What does Peter do?

Johns 21 is the first conversation between Peter and Jesus since Jesus' resurrection. How do you think Peter was feeling?

What did Jesus do?

How did Peter react?

Jesus chooses to love regardless of circumstance or reaction. He loves even when we don't love him in return. Can you think of a time when you experienced the love of Jesus when you felt you didn't deserve it?



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Pastor Gordon walked through three ways that we can learn to love regardless. We can't love unconditionally without doing these things:

- Abide in Jesus.
- See everyone as image bearers of God.
- Take the high road.

Read John 15: 1-17

- What does Jesus tell us in these verses?
- Pastor Gordon described the word abiding, as tethering. Who are you tethered to?
- We can stay tethered or abide in Christ by being a fully formed follower of Christ through consistent worship, growing in our faith, serving, giving generously, and sharing our faith with others. Tethering ourselves deeply in Christ in these areas will allow Jesus to love through us.

Read Genesis 1:26

- The radical truth from Genesis is that all of humankind is made in God's image. In ancient times kings and rulers were God's image. Genesis tells us a different story. EVERYONE is an image bearer of God.
- How easy is it to remember you are an image bearer of God?
- How easy or difficult is it to see others as image bearers of God?
- How would it change the way you interact to see every person as an image bearer of God?

Read Matthew 5:38-42

- Pastor Gordon's last point was "take the high road" How do these verses address this?
- What are some ways we can take the high road when we are in a conflict?



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These past four weeks, we have looked at ways we can be peacemakers. We learned to ask to learn, listen well, disagree freely, and love regardless. Christ calls us to be peacemakers, so that we can bring the peace of Christ to those around us.



NEXT STEPS

- Abide in Jesus.
- See everyone as image bearers of God.
- Ask to learn, listen well, disagree freely, love regardless.