



Plan for Love
Philippians 2:1-8 | January 3rd - 9th, 2016

Warm Up: Begin by reading **Genesis 1:26-27** and **2:18-23** aloud. Scripture repeatedly affirms the idea that we are *hardwired for relationship*. God exists in perfect relationship (Father, Son, and Spirit) and we are made in His image. We are designed with an intrinsic need to be in meaningful relationship with others. Why is this truth so profound in our understanding of God? In our understanding of human relationships?

- ❖ Think about some marriages you deeply respect. In your estimation, what factors, attitudes, or qualities seem to characterize these kinds of relationships?
- ❖ Divide up the following Scriptures and read them aloud, slowly and carefully: **1 John 4:19, Romans 5:5, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 13:1-7,13, 1 Peter 4:8, Colossians 3:14, Proverbs 17:17, 1 John 3:18, John 13:34,35, Philippians 2:1-8**
 - How does the Bible's description of *love* differ from our culture's interpretation?
 - Why should the *actions* of our Triune God be the foundation of our plan to love one another?
 - What *actions* do we need to take to live out these verses consistently this week? This year?
 - In the **Philippians** passage, what are the attitudes we are to exhibit in our relationships?
- ❖ Every successful relationship is based upon giving and receiving love! On Sunday we were given five markers, or links, that should be part of any plan to build or start a successful relationship with an individual or even a life group!
1) Knowing → 2) Trust → 3) Reliance → 4) Commitment → 5) Touch
 - Discuss each point in order. How have you experienced these markers in the closest relationship in your life? What exactly do each of these markers mean? How do we ensure we are doing them in the proper order?

Wrap Up: Briefly share how you plan to show love to the person God has called you to in tangible and practical ways in 2016. In prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you as you look to develop a plan to love one another well!