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WORSHIP RESOURCE | WEEK 1

Theme | A Methodist Loves God

Overall Series Scripture | Luke 5:26, New Revised Standard Version

Scripture | Matthew 22:36-38, New Revised Standard Version

Sermon Title | Remarkable | A Methodist Loves God

Desired Outcome | Congregants will recognize that their ability to love comes from their identity in God and will seek to love God and others

Sermon Building Key Points

- We do lots of things to project our identity – profile on Facebook, work, school, what we drive, hobbies, role in family
- Our fingerprint is an unmistakable marker of our identity
- We bear the mark of God's fingerprint in our lives
- The graphic of a fingerprint for this series is a reminder both of our individual identity and our identity in Christ
- Our identity inside and out originates in God
- We can accept or rebel against our God-given identity
- John Wesley recognized that a primary way to identify a Methodist is that "a Methodist loves God"
- Our ability to love originates in God's love for us
- The primary way we understand the nature of God's love is revealed in Jesus Christ
- God doesn't force or manipulate us, but God does pursue us with God's love
- The Wesley Study Bible Page 830 | "We can't outrun, out-give, outlast, or out-grow God's love."
- Love is more than a profession of faith
- The mark of love is evident by the way we love God and others
- Love is demonstrated in a willingness to sacrifice
- We seek to love those who are difficult to love
- Left to our own devices, we love those who love us in return
- Call to action: accept God's remarkable love for you

[Continued on Page 2]



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[Continued from Page 1]

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Prayer for the Week

Dear God, I want to love you with my whole life. Amen.

Daily Readings for Week 1

MON • 1 John 4:19

TUE • John 21:15-19

WED • Romans 5:8

THU • Romans 8:35-39

FRI • Deuteronomy 6:4-5

SAT • 1 John 4:7-12

Music Recommendations

Contemporary

- Ready | by Third Day
- Love the Lord Your God | by Lincoln Brewster
- Come to Jesus | by Mindy Smith
- You Are My Hiding Place | by Michael Ledner
- Hold Us Together | by Matt Maher

Blended

- Amazing Grace | UMH 378
- Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing | UMH 400
- I Sing the Almighty Power of God | UMH 152
- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling | UMH 384
- O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go | UMH 480

Suggested Video

- God's Finger Print | by Building Worship