



# re•mark•able

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## WORSHIP RESOURCE | WEEK 5

**Theme** | A Methodist Loves Others

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

**Scripture** | 1 John 4:19-21, Contemporary English Version

**Sermon Title** | Remarkable | A Methodist Loves Others

**Desired Outcome** | Congregants will seek to love others – especially those who are difficult to love

### Sermon Building Key Points

- The five marks – a Methodist loves God, rejoices in God, gives thanks, prays constantly and loves others – are deceptively simple statements
- These are deep and extremely challenging concepts
- John Wesley believed that theory must become practice
- An example of remarkable love is Mamie Mobley's response regarding those who killed her son Emmet Till "I did not wish them dead. I did not wish them in jail. If I had to, I could take their four little children – they each had two – and I could raise those children as if they were my own and I could have loved them...I believe the Lord meant what he said, and try to live according to the way I've been taught."
- Love shaped by Christ removes bitterness and cynicism
- All of us encounter people who are difficult to love
- Sometimes we are difficult to love
- The people who love us when we are at our worst help us see Christ
- When we choose to love others, we give what we have received
- We pass on the grace we have received
- We love because God first loved us
- God is love (1 John 4:8)
- Christians are both beneficiaries and agents of God's love
- God's love flows into us and through us
- It is impossible to love God without loving others
- The vertical nature of the cross reminds us of God's love for us and our love for God
- The horizontal nature of the cross reminds us that Christ gave himself so that all persons could be reconciled with God and we are part of that reconciling work today

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## WORSHIP RESOURCE | WEEK 5

### Sermon Building Key Points [ Continued ]

- Loving others isn't limited to those we find loveable; it includes loving our enemies
- Loving others includes those we don't know, and those with whom we disagree
- In situations of abuse or addiction, the most loving action may be setting boundaries or separation from an individual, but nothing prevents our prayers for that person
- Christ shows us what sacrificial love looks like
- Jesus said above all other commandments we are to love God and to love our neighbor
- Martin Luther King Jr. said the surest way to be happy is to seek happiness for others
- Martin Luther King Jr. "Just keep being friendly to that person. Just keep loving them.... sometimes they'll hate you a little more at the transition period, but just keep loving them."
- We hope when people see us they experience love and see Christ
- St. Teresa of Avila "Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on the world, yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good, and yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now
- Romans 12:1, The Message "Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering"
- Call to Action: each day this week, pray for the happiness and well being of someone you find difficult to love

### Prayer for the Week

Dear God, use me today to share your love with others. Amen.

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## WORSHIP RESOURCE | WEEK 5

### Daily Readings for Week 5

MON • Mark 12:28-34

TUE • 1 John 4:7-18

WED • Matthew 5:38-48

THU • Colossians 3:12-17

FRI • Romans 12:1-2

SAT • Matthew 22:37-39

### Music Recommendations

#### Contemporary

- Testify | by Melissa Etheridge
- Glory in the Highest | by Chris Tomlin
- 10,000 Reasons | by Matt Redman
- Altar and the Door | by Casting Crowns
- Untitled Hymn (Come to Jesus) | by Chris Rice
- If We Are the Body | Casting Crowns

#### Blended

- Take My Life, and Let it Be | UMH 399
- Breathe On Me, Breath of God | UMH 420
- And Are We Yet Alive | UMH 553
- The Summons | The Faith We Sing | 2130
- Blest Be the Tie That Binds | UMH 557

### Suggested Video

- Love (A New Commandment) | by Centerline New Media