

# PEARL *Adventure Awaits*

Sunday, October 17, 2021 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 5 | Love

Acts 17:32-34; 1 Corinthians 13:1-3; John 13:34-35

As you share the Good News, expect  
**VARIOUS REACTIONS**

**some will mock** v. 32

**some will be curious** v. 32

**a few will believe!** v. 33-34

—but God will **KEEP WORKING**

**Dionysius** v. 34

**Damaris** v. 34

Zechariah 4:10

so you must **KEEP LOVING!**

**love is essential** 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

**unconditional, sacrificial** John 13:34-35

**We are sent** to love people and invite them  
to follow Jesus with us.

**PRAY** *for them*  
**EAT** *with them*  
**ASK** *questions*  
**REVEAL** *your story*  
**LOVE** *them tangibly*

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

**Matthew 13:45-46 (ESV)**



**What is this?** – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

**Welcome to Life Groups!** Most of this week's questions (and more!) can be found in the PEARL Guidebook.

### Conversation Kick-Starters

- If you won a million dollars what would you do with it? How much would you spend on yourself and loved ones? How much would you spend on others and the community?

### Devotional Discussion

The devotional this week focused on "loving tangibly" those God puts in your path.

1. What challenged or impacted you from your reading and journaling this week?
2. What from your processing this week are you feeling prompted by God to act on?

**Group Facilitator** | Consider picking one question from each Daily Reflection in the PEARL Guidebook this week and discussing as a group.

### P.E.A.R.L. in Practice

We have been discussing a particular technique for relational evangelism called PEARL – Pray, Eat, Ask, Reveal and Love. PEARL is one way to process how to take practical steps in sharing your faith with another person.

**Read John 4:1-42.**

1. What do you notice about the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman? What were some of the ways Jesus blessed her?
2. How does Jesus' example correlate to loving your own neighbors?
3. Which of the everyday ways to love your neighbor found in the PEARL acronym do you most look forward to practicing? Which do you find most challenging?

**Get Your PEARL Guidebook!**  
 We've published a 5-week daily devotional to accompany this series, complete with Group Discussion questions that you can use with your Life Group or with a friend as you work through it together. Get yours at the Connect Desk, or download a PDF and find other PEARL tools online at [youareloved.church/pearl](http://youareloved.church/pearl).



### Group Reflection

1. As a group, read and pray through the following PEARL commitment:
  - P.** I commit to **pray** for my neighbors. My example is Jesus, who started His earthly mission with prayer (Luke 6:12-16). Prayer is both how I discover my mission and how I do the mission of Jesus.
  - E.** I commit to **eat** with my neighbors. My example is Jesus, who consistently shared meals with the "sinners" (Matthew 9:9-13). Eating with others is how I move a relationship from an acquaintance to a friendship.
  - A.** I commit to **ask** good questions and listen to my neighbors. My example is Jesus, who loved others by asking questions and then listening to them (Luke 18:40-42). Asking and listening is how I give dignity to others, and it is a gracious expression of love.
  - R.** I commit to **reveal** my story with my neighbors. My example is Jesus, who shared the Good News of His own story with others (John 3:1-17). Sharing my story gives others a clear understanding of how God's love and the life of Jesus can change their lives.
  - L.** I commit to **love** my neighbors by serving. My example is Jesus, who did not come to be served, but to serve others (Matthew 20:28). Serving others is a tangible way I can demonstrate the love of God to others.
2. What is *your* next step toward living out this PEARL commitment?

## Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

### Word Find for 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NIV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>1</sup> If I **speak** in the tongues of men or of **angels**, but do not have **love**, I am **only** a **resounding gong** or a **clanging cymbal**. <sup>2</sup> If I have the **gift** of **prophecy** and can **fathom** all **mysteries** and all **knowledge**, and if I have a **faith** that can **move mountains**, but do not have **love**, I am **nothing**. <sup>3</sup> If I **give** all I **possess** to the **poor** and **give** over my **body** to **hardship** that I may **boast**, but do not have **love**, I **gain nothing**.

P R O P H E C Y M B A L  
 O R N C M O V E G O N G  
 O E L L N P G W M D O K  
 R S Y A O F A A Y Y G B  
 M O U N T A I N S G I W  
 S U D G H T N G T G F H  
 P N V I I H G E E I T O  
 E D V N N O W L R V P Y  
 A I B G G M F S I E F G  
 K N O W L E D G E H A B  
 S G A F H A R D S H I P  
 E V S P O S S E S S T V  
 C S T F I S L O V E H R