

DWELL

JUNE 26, 2022

QUIET CONFIDENCE

LET'S PRAY!

Today's message is titled **Quiet Confidence**. I am a little nervous and , and while the verses lead in one way, LOVE, God had other plans. Big Surprise.

Once again, I will be sharing what I discovered relative to the DWELL theme.

PLEASE STAND AS WE SHOW HONOR TO OUR CREATOR FOR HIS PRECIOUS WORD.

TODAY'S TEXT IS 1 John 4:7-21

God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

19 We love because he first loved us.

20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD!

Just a simple reminder, our theme is Dwell. Each time I have the privilege to study scripture it clarifies that our God, Our Creator, Our Heavenly Father desires to be in relationship with us.

As a quick refresher, Jesus explains in John 15 that we can do nothing without being connected to Him. We know that the love language of God for us to regularly meditate on His Word and to spend time in prayer, to listen to His voice and act on His teaching. To obey.

Don't you know that God cares for you?

Psalm 8:3-6-

3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet.

Who am I that you are mindful of me? Awesome!

DWELL: TO RESIDE, TO STAY. TO REMAIN. TO ABIDE.

Status check? We are at the end of June. It's not too late to get started. Keep going! Be encouraged. Hold on tight to the Word of God! Do not let the lies of the enemy get a foothold. He wants you to believe him. He wants to bring you down whenever he has a chance. The battle has been won! Every day is a new day! Jesus called us to take up our cross daily. If you are not where you want to be, that's ok. Begin today. Change requires changes. Who is the greatest agent of change in all of history? You know it! Jesus Christ Our Lord! Begin today and Build on Yesterday! Don't you quit! You have got this because God has got you! God is with you! He promises never to leave you nor forsake you! Be encouraged no matter the circumstances. Recognize that the Creator of all life, loves you with an everlasting love! Try to get your head around it. Get into His Word and

it is clear. How awesome is that! It is the greatest thing we have in our lives. Let's go!

THE TITLE OF THIS MESSAGE THAT THE LORD BROUGHT TO ME IS **“Quiet Confidence or Walk Softly and Carry a Big Stick.”**

God opened this up after the last few days.

CONTEXT

John, the one who Jesus loved, is believed to have written these three books around the end of the first century. He had many issues to address, but Chapter 4 focused on God's love. His ever-present love.

MEMORY VERSE FOR JUNE- 1 John 4:15-16 -

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Chapter 4 Verses 7-21 is titled God is Love.

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

-

This begins with an encouraging word. Love one another. He recognizes that love is from God and whoever truly loves knows God because God is author and creator of love. This is positive. It comes from our “Re-birth and Renewal” through faith in Jesus.

This type of love is not familial. It is not brotherly. It is the kind of love, AGAPE, love that only comes from God- from knowing God. Those other types of love are worthy, but they pale in comparison.

Agape love is pure. It is intentional. It is sacrificial. The motive is a selfless act to provide the greatest good for another. It is not based on emotions or feelings. It is not demanding. It is based upon a level of commitment with no expectation of anything in return even where there is no opportunity for a return favor. That is Agape love. This comes from our intimate relationship with God because of Jesus who modeled this love for us. It is us “experiencing” and “knowing” God which comes through loving God and loving people.

We must be cautious. The enemy is looking for any opportunity to trip us up. We must stand firm in the Word. We must follow the model of Jesus. Selfless and free from pride. How? ABIDE! Remain and Reside in the Word and be in constant prayer to be transformed to the will of God.

1 John 2:9-11

9 Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness.

10 Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.

11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 John 3:16-17

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

This extravagant love is for everyone. If you have not trusted your life to Jesus, know that God desires that each one to do so. To be saved. Believe it!

Ezekiel 18:23

Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord GOD, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?

John 6:40

For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

1 John 3:1

See what kind of love the Father has given (lavished on) to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Do not lose sight of God goodness here. It is easy to do in our busy-ness, but let that be the stronghold God wants for you.

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

When think of the facts, it blows me away. God sent His one and only Son to save us. He demonstrated His love for us in ways unimaginable.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:8

but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Greek word “Hilamos” which means “make favorable.” Jesus is our substitute for sin. He stood in our place. This is indescribable as he took the punishment we deserved. This is love.

Romans 3:25b-

This was to show God’s righteousness because in His divine forbearance He has passed over former sins

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Jesus stood in our place. How can truly appreciate this act of love? Reside in the Word. Remain connected to the vine.

We are prone to forget. See the song we just sang, Good God Almighty.

I can't count the times I've called Your name some broken night
And You showed up and patched me up like You do every time
I get amnesia, I forget that You keep coming around
Yeah, ain't no way You'll ever let me down (me down)
Good God almighty

We do get amnesia. It happens to all of us. What can we do to prevent that amnesia? To remember what God has done, is doing and going to do? You got it. Stay in the Word. Remain in constant prayer and guard that prayer time!

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

This recommendation here is a command elsewhere.

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

Where can we possibly develop this type of love? Through the model of Jesus Christ our Lord and The Holy Word of God. It is a discipline. Dwelling in Him must be intentional. Make no mistake, there will be days you lean towards not meditating on His Word and spending time in prayer. Don't you do it!

The love of God comes from knowing the mind and heart of God which only comes from intimate time in prayer and meditating on His principles. The enemy will obviously tell you otherwise. Remain. Dwell. Abide.

12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

God is beyond us. He is invisible. The examples in scripture are a partial revelation of God. His form is one we cannot fully understand. This is an awesome aspect of God. It really ought to humble us. Other aspects of scripture refer to His unapproachable light.

1 Timothy 6:16

who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

John 4:24

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

1 Timothy 1:17

To the King of ages, immortal, **invisible**, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Let's look at "perfected in us." The Greek term is **teleioo** which essentially translates into mature or complete. It is not absolute perfection as in the case of Jesus at least not on this side of Heaven; however, we love God. He abides in us and we become complete. Paul actually repeats it. **Teleioo teleioo**. In other words, completely complete. That is a byproduct of His great love for us, and when He draws us to love, He resides in us and makes us complete.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

We have assurance. We can know. No other faith, religion, cult etc. can say that. The foundation of Christianity is not guess work. We can know without equivocation that the Savior of the World came and will come again. That is worthy of praise. Amen!

When we trust Christ, He is sealed in us through the Holy Spirit.

John 14:15-17

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Verse 14 also points to eyewitness accounts in the term "**testify**." We can be sure that the bible is reliable. The more we abide and remain in it; studying, learning, meditating the more it becomes real and consequential.

Voddie Baucham - Why I choose to believe the bible. Amazing explanation of the reliability of the bible. It will blow your mind. Go see it online.

The memory verses:

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

More assurances that are realized through our close relationship with the Lord.

Romans 10:9

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

And it can never be shaken or taken. God is now residing in you! I literally got chills when I

began to type that.

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,
39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord

DETOUR- We interrupt this program to bring you an important message

Life is not all sunshine and rainbows. We have discussed some amazing truths today. One other truth- we are in a battle for souls!

This is where the name of the message was revealed to me. We are in a battle for our lives. The battle has been won. That is awesome! We can live in confidence knowing that Jesus paid it all and sin has been defeated. If you are a believer that is great. That does not mean you will not be under attack. Actually, you can guarantee it. There will be trials and people are watching. This week's events surely demonstrate that.

This is where the quiet confidence comes in. We must be in prayer. We must be in the Word. We must be prepared. The battle belongs to Him (See Phil Wickham), but we need a reminder every day. The precious Word of God is our reminder. It is the love letter from Our Creator that we will be challenged. We can take heart because Jesus has overcome the world.

17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as He is so also are we in this world.

When we abide in the Lord, He abides in us. This is where that confidence comes from. Quietly we can know that we are saved. There are souls that need to here this message. There is a boldness also required of us. This also is a direct by-product of the Holy Spirit. Remember teleioo teleioo! Perfectly perfected and completely completed. That is us. It is not because of us but because of Jesus. May we never forget that.

Philippians 3:8-9

Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ

9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.

Ephesian 6:10-20

The Whole Armor of God

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,

19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,

20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Jude- v. 1-3

Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

2 May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

Judgment on False Teachers

3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

It begins well. Complementary even. The reality is that a battle is in place.

2 Corinthians 10:1-6

I, Paul, myself entreat you, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold toward you when I am away!--

2 I beg of you that when I am present I may not have to show boldness with such confidence as I count on showing against some who suspect us of walking according to the flesh.

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

We must stand firm. War is being waged, but it is a spiritual battle. It is not against flesh

and blood. The concepts that violate truth are on the rise. The enemy is using subtle methods to creep into the church. We must stay in the Word. We must remain confident yet willing to fight the good fight of faith. The lives of many depend on it.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

We KNOW. We can be confident. This is not fear that is tormenting us. Walk confidently in the Holy Spirit. You are being made complete because God loved us enough to save us.

20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

MUST! This is a command and we know that we show Jesus love when we obey His commandments.

I will end with one more set of verses.

1 John 3:10-17

10 By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

11 For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

12 We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

13 Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.

14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.

15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

16 By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

17 But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

Spurgeon:

This means that it is true that He loves now. Do you believe it? “Oh, if you really do believe that he has loved you so, sit down, and turn the subject over in your mind, and say to yourself, “Jesus loves me; Jesus chose me; Jesus redeemed me; Jesus called me; Jesus pardoned me; Jesus has taken me into union with himself.

WORSHIP TEAM

Questions:

- 1. How is your DWELL time growing half way through the year?**
- 2. What changes are needed to grow in you relationship with the Lord?**
- 3. Are living quiet confidence knowing that the battle is won, the love of God is in you? If not, what might you need to change today?**
- 4. Are you ready today to go to battle with the enemy?**
- 5. Are you asking God to prepare you daily?**

Applications:

\$ Jesus paid it all at the cross!
**\$ We can walk confidently because of
because of Jesus’ work on the cross!**
**\$ He loves us beyond our imagination
and provides for our every need!**

Praise God!