



**Part 3 - December 21, 2025**

## Introduction

This week's message asked us to imagine something that once seemed impossible — a movement built not on power, force, or arguments, but on love. Before jumping into discussion, take a moment to reflect on this question: *What stood out to you most from Sunday's message — a phrase, image, or idea you're still thinking about?*

## Discussion Questions

### 1. **Read John 14:6**

The message challenged the idea that Christianity is primarily about what we believe rather than how we behave.

Why do you think belief is often emphasized more than behavior?

How have you seen Christian behavior — good or bad — shape people's openness to faith?

### 2. **Amazed by How We Love**

Rich invited us to imagine a world where people are skeptical of Christian beliefs but amazed by Christian behavior.

What kind of Christian behavior do you think would genuinely surprise or disarm skeptics today?

Where do you think the church struggles most to live this out?

### 3. **Read John 13:34**

Love, as Jesus defined it, was described as inconvenient, countercultural, and costly.

Why is love that costs us so difficult to practice consistently?

Can you think of a situation where choosing love would require personal sacrifice?

### 4. **A King and a Kingdom**

Early Christians were unsettling to Rome not because of immorality, but because of allegiance.

How does viewing Jesus as King (not just Savior or teacher or coach) change how we think about obedience?

In what ways does allegiance to Jesus sometimes conflict with cultural expectations?

### 5. **What Does Love Require of Me?**

#### **Read Ephesians 5:1-2**

Paul urges believers to "walk in the way of love."

Why is this question more challenging than asking, "What do I feel?" or "What do I prefer?"

Is there one relationship or situation where this question could guide a different response this week?

## **Ending the Night**

The early church changed the world not by trying to win arguments, but by choosing a way of life that reflected their King. The same invitation stands before us today — not just to admire Jesus, but to follow him. Together let's ask, "What would it look for Jesus alone to rule on the throne of my life?"

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### **CLOSING PRAYER**

God, thank you for loving us first. As we reflect on the way of love, give us the courage to follow Jesus not only in what we believe, but in how we live. Help us to see the people around us through your eyes and to choose love — even when it costs us. Teach us to walk in the way of love this week. Amen.