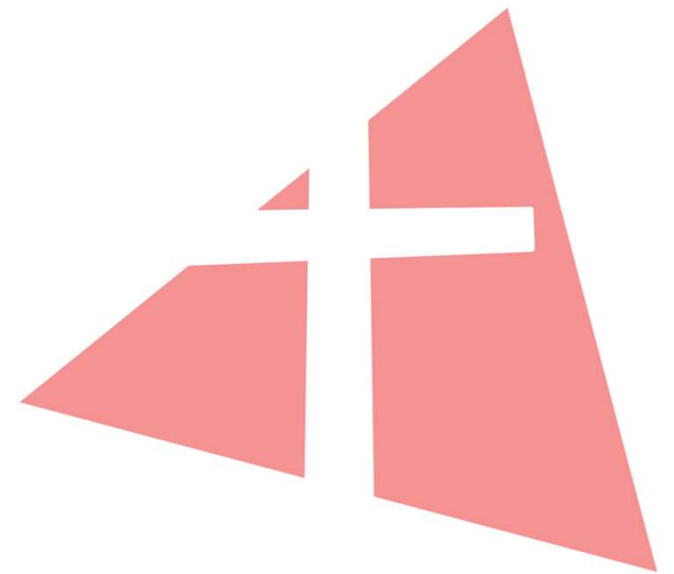


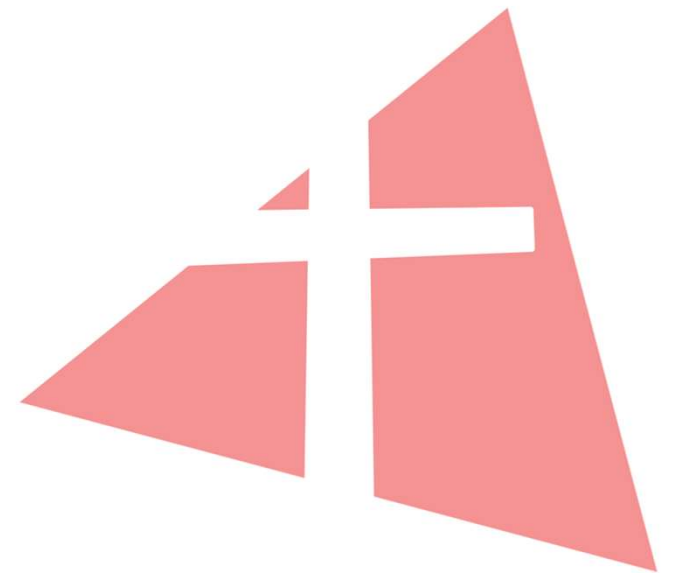
Community: Forgive and Love One Another

November 17th 2024



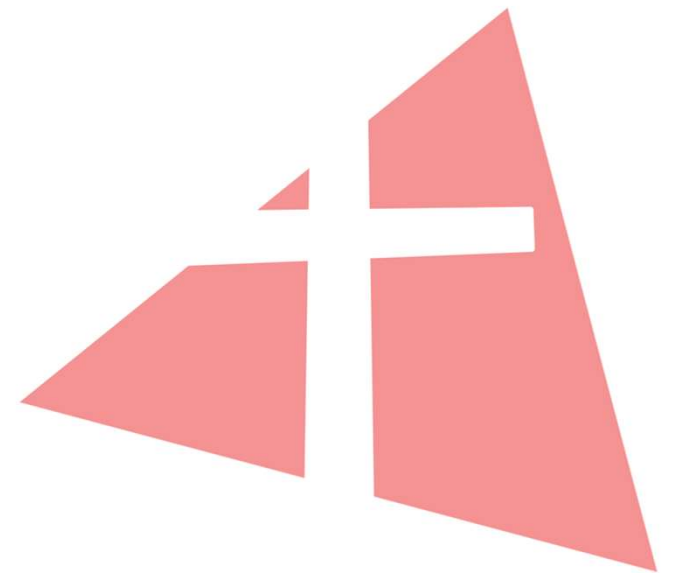
Our Series

- **Community**



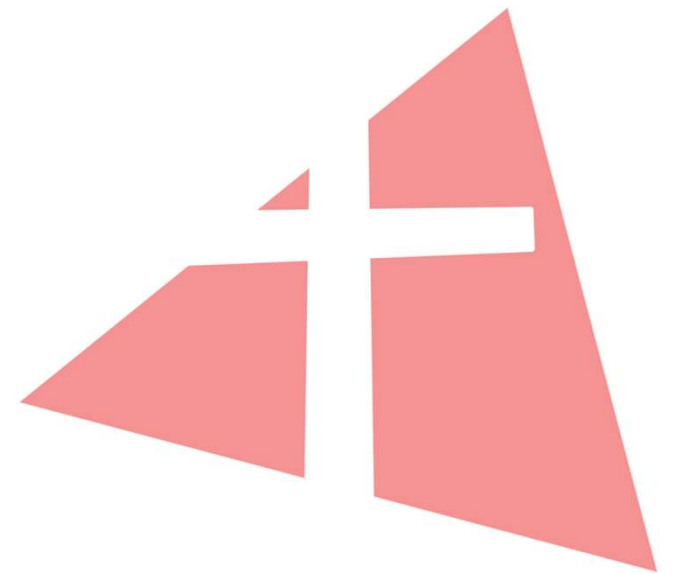
Today's Focus

- **Forgive and Love one another**



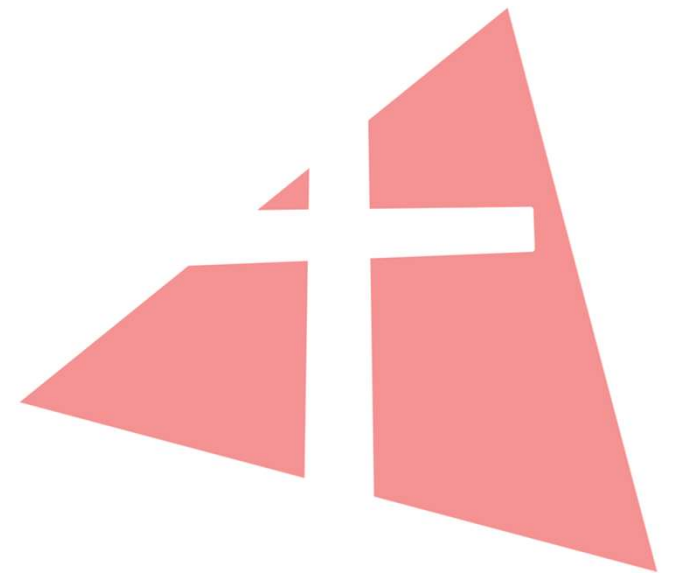
Unity

- **God commands us to be in unity**
- **Unity does not mean uniformity**



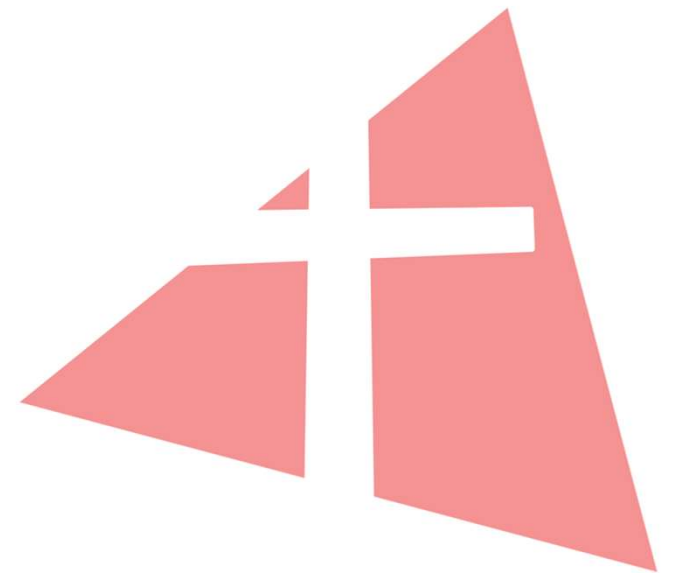
Reality

- **Church Communities consist of sinful, messy people**
 - God commands us to love and forgive
 - Sin tries to tell us to separate from each other



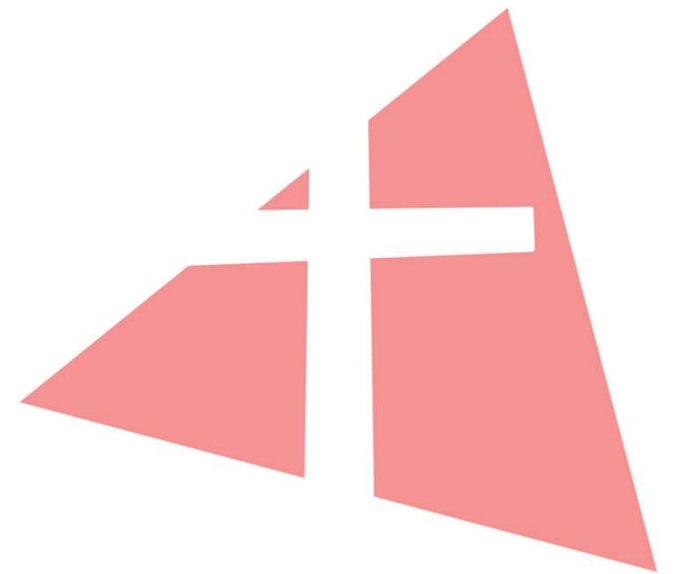
Our Struggles

- **Other people's sin**
- **Our own sinfulness**
- **Differences in culture, beliefs, upbringing, preferences, etc.**



The Wrong Choice

- Church Hopping



God's Way

1 Peter 4:7-8 But the end of all things is at hand: be therefore sober minded, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent love among yourselves: for love shall cover a multitude of sins.

ἀγάπη agápē, ag-ah'-pay

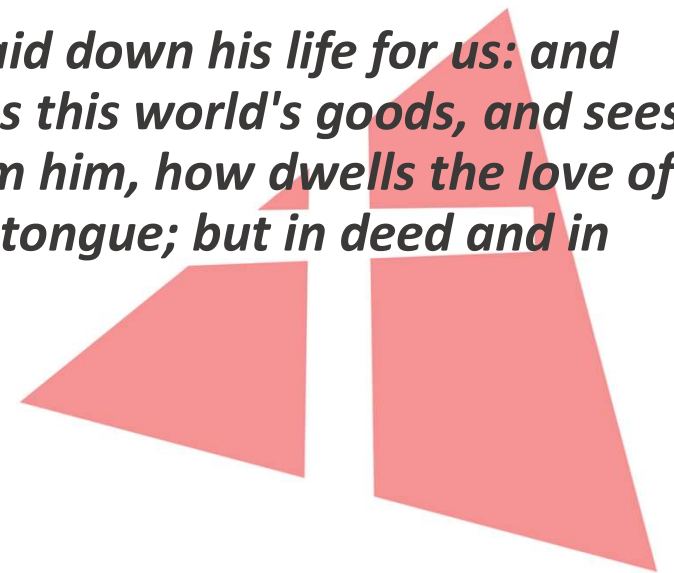
from [G25](#); love, i.e. affection or benevolence; specially (plural) a love-feast:—(feast of) charity(-ably), dear, love.



Biblical Commandments on Love

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

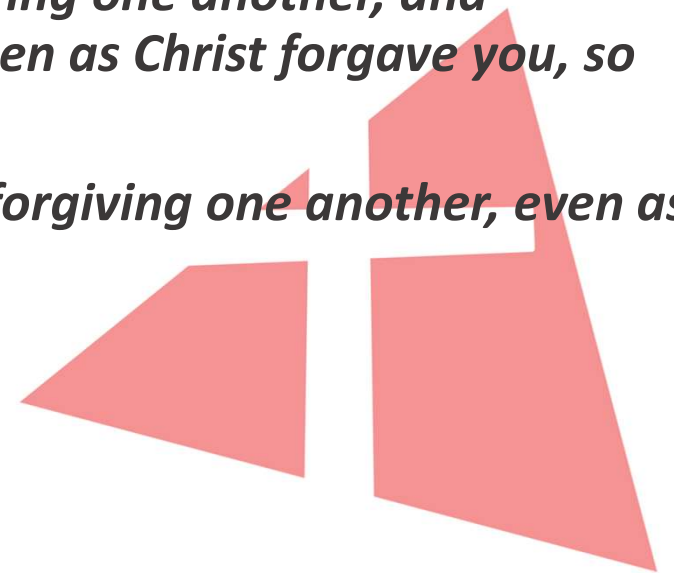
1 John 3:16-18 By this perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother have need, and shuts up his heart of compassion from him, how dwells the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.



Biblical Commandments on Forgiveness

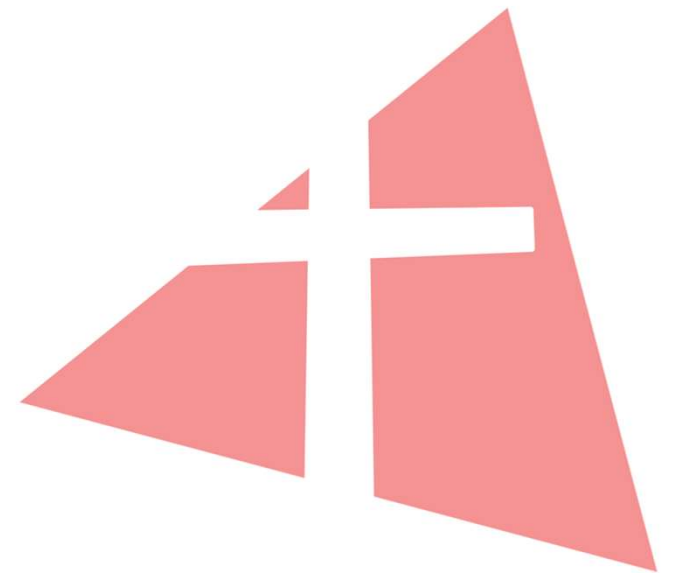
Colossians 3:12-13 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do you.

Ephesians 4:32 And be you kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you.



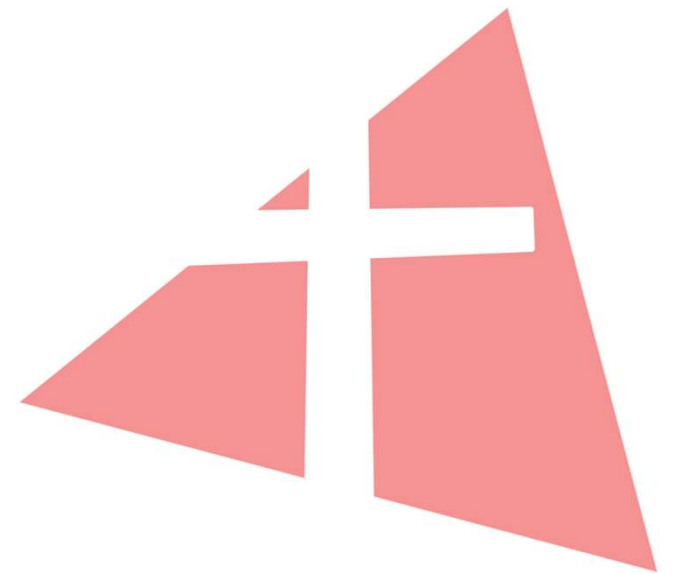
Jesus' Example

- **The Transfiguration**
- **Peter's Denial**
- **Asking for fire from heaven**
- ...



Just to be clear

- **We are not called to be a doormat**
- **We are not called to suppress our emotions**



Jesus' Example

- Most of His life, Jesus protected Himself
- But when it was the Father's will, He allowed people to hurt and kill Him
- Jesus trusted that the Father would reward Him

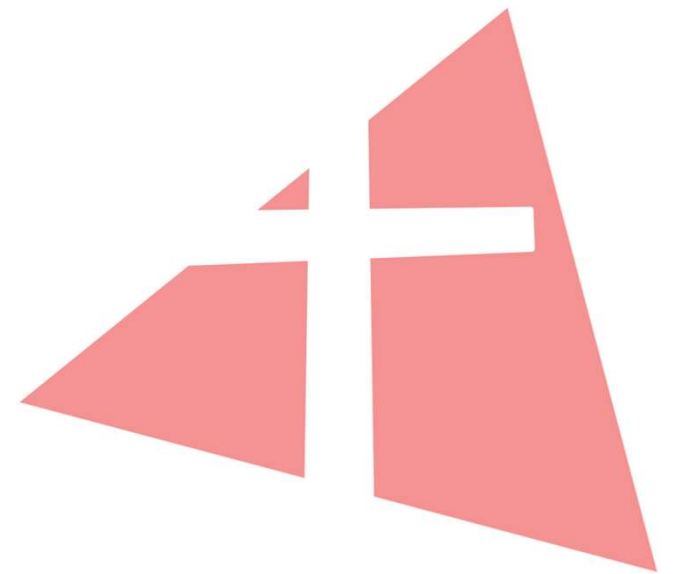
Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.



How?

- **We need to receive God's love and forgiveness first**
- **Then we have the resources to love and forgive others as well**

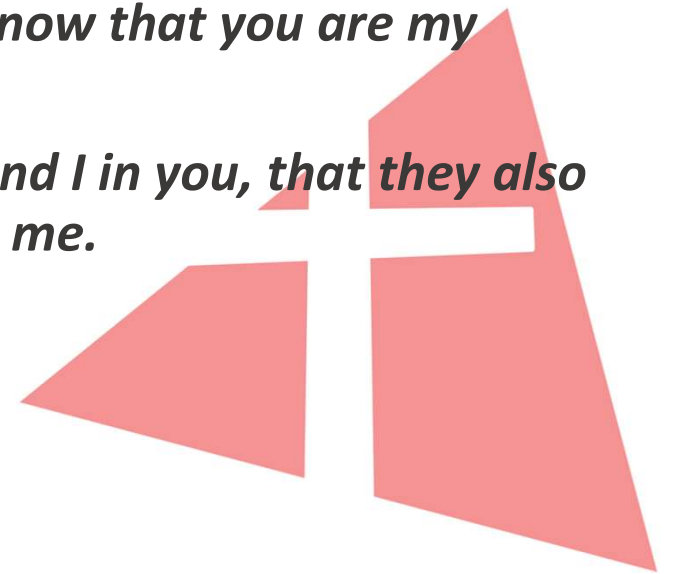
1 John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.



The Effect of Love and Forgiveness

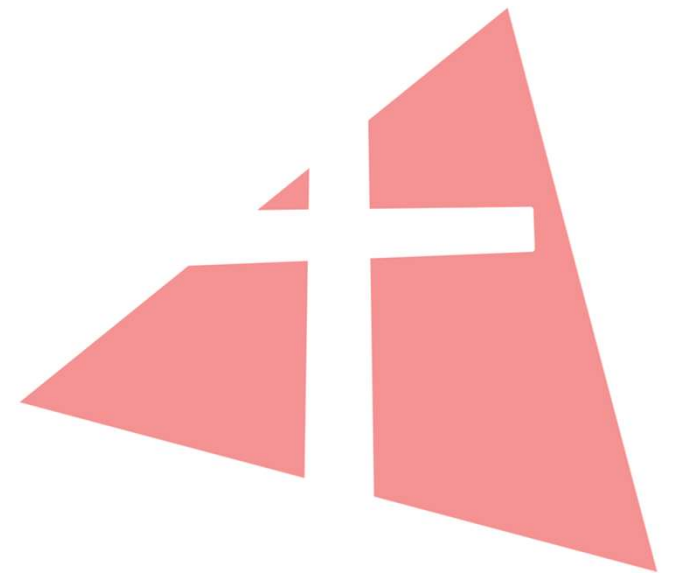
John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another.

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that you have sent me.



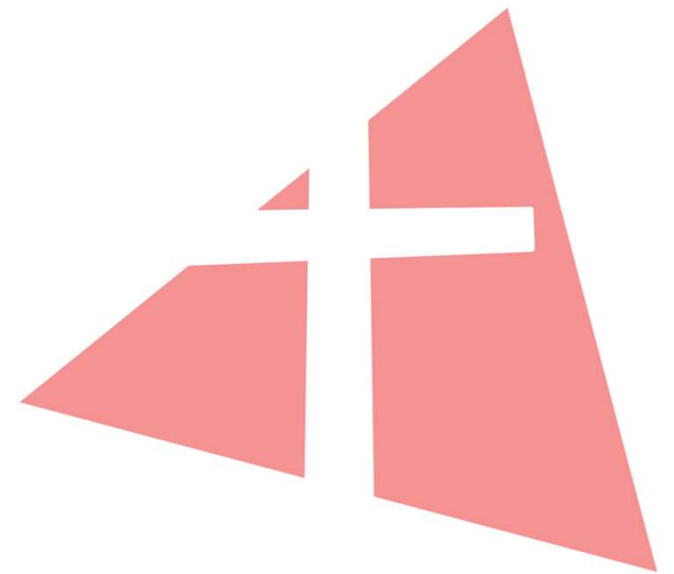
Testimonies

- **Two opposite stories**



In Conclusion

- **Being able to love and forgive is a commandment from God**
- **But it's also evidence whether our Faith is genuine**





Holy
COMMUNION

REMEMBER **HIS** SACRIFICE