

SERMON NOTES:



10th May, 2026

Part 2 - For the Life of the World
Made for Love

Pastor Mick Spann

Series Reminder:

- Salvation is not just about personal atonement
- Salvation = new life + new vocation
- We now live under God's Kingdom economy (Oikonomia)
- We are called to: Live as exiles - For the Life of the World

Key Passage: 1 John 4:7-12

1) We Were Made Out of God's Love to Love Like He Does

Creation Begins with Love

- "In the beginning God..."
- God = perfect loving Trinity
- Creation = overflow of divine love

Humanity's Design

- Made in God's image (Genesis 1:26–27)
- Designed for relationships:
 - With God and others (in family and community)

Overflow Principle

- God's love multiplies outward
 - We are created to: Receive love, Reflect love and Multiply love

2) Homes & Church are designed to be places of Love in Gods economy

- Homes:
 - Places of life, formation, and blessing
- Church:
 - Not a club → a family
 - A place where love multiplies outward

The Problem: Sin

- Sin is Love turned inward (self-love)
 - Which results in broken relationships and a loss of human flourishing. Both on a spiritual and physical manner.

The Good News (Ephesians 2:4–10)

- God, who is rich in mercy has made us alive in Christ
 - Salvation has been provided by grace through faith
 - Meaning that Christians are new creations: God's handiwork, created for good works
 - Giving us a fresh ability to receive God's love, and love like He does.

3) Love is Compassionately Self-Giving

God's Love Acts (John 3:16)

- God's love moves outward
- The incarnation is a perfect example. (Jesus' humble birth, rejection, and suffering)
- At every point: Love was the driving factor.

Love is what you do: (it forgives, carries burdens, and serves).

Much of what we do is ordinary (quiet, unseen and everyday).

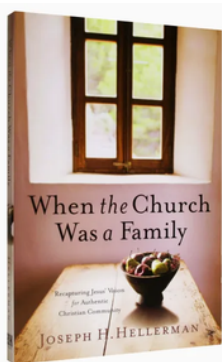
We must recognise that even the ordinary work of the 'home' MATTERS because the home is where love is practiced, children are formed and faith is passed on.

Equally, the ordinary nature of every stage of life MATTERS when it plays the 'melody' of God's Oikonomia.

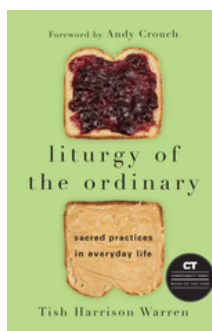
Churches need to be a place where our Daily Work (and the Love practiced therein) is valued, dignified and supported. Because every touch point we have with another human being, is an opportunity to Love like God does.

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Additional resources that have been helpful in Mick's preparation towards this message:



**When the Church
was a Family**



**Liturgy of the
Ordinary**



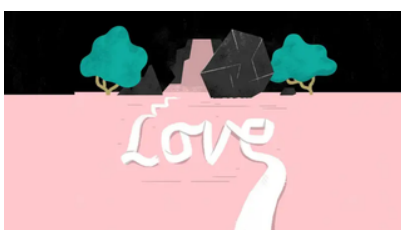
**Motherhood for the
Sake of the World
(1st of 3 Good Articles)**



Jessica Kong

- The Gospel Coalition (Australia)

BibleProject Study Guide: Love in the Bible



Interesting Podcast Episode:



The first word God uses to describe his character in Exodus 34:6-7 is "compassionate," closely related to the Hebrew word for "womb."

Blessing as a Family

SMALL GROUP OUTLINE

CONNECT – *help people get comfortable*

What television family (real or fictional) is your favorite? What makes them great?

REVIEW

Watch Episode #2: Love



Read the key idea, verse, and passage. What insights did you take away from this week's scripture and message?

Key Idea God's design for the family is to be a gift we offer back to God for the life of the world.

Key Verse *Genesis 12:2*

Key Passage *Genesis 17:1-7*

DISCUSS – talk through the content to gain understanding

- If your family had a business card, what kinds of things would you want to be on it?
- How is compost similar to family? How is that the same or different from how you think of your family on a day to day basis? How does the compost analogy engage with your thoughts on relationships?
- What would you say is God's purpose for your family? How would a commitment to "loving, encouraging, blessing" change some of the habits in your family?
- What is one experience that you have had (or witnessed) in a marriage that has given you reason to praise God? How do your good or bad experiences of marriage (parents, family, friends, your own) relate to how you understand God's faithfulness?

continued on next page

- What is a family (biological or otherwise) that inspires you? How does their relationship show God's abundance and overflow of love? What do they do that makes them different?
- How do you see God's generosity toward you or your family in your daily routines?
- Why is it often difficult to generously share the things that God has so generously shared with us?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE – taking time to listen to God and respond

Reflect:

- What are some Christian families or marriages that remind you of God's love and faithfulness?
- How have those relationships been a "loving, encouraging, blessing" in ordinary ways?
- How do those relationships reflect an uncommon generosity of time, spiritual gifts or financial resources given for the life of the world?

Read: John 15:9-17 out loud.

Journal:

- Think of a few times God has specifically shown you generous love.
- Out of God's great love, we love. Think of someone in your life that you can love, encourage and bless this week.
- What are specific ways that God's abundance of love can overflow from your family to this person or people?

Share: some ways you and your family can love this person or people.

PRAY – *share requests with one another*

Pray that our families and marriages would be a demonstration of God's love and faithfulness to each other.

Pray that we would see our families and marriages go beyond ourselves to love, encourage and bless those around us.

CHALLENGE – *live it out in the coming week*

Pray each morning that you would see where God wants to bless your neighborhood and see it flourish. Look for any people and places God might be calling you to serve.