



January 24, 2021

Guest: Pastor Jared Wilkins

Spheres of Love Hebrews 13:1-3

We are Called to Love God's Family Hebrews 13:1

Galatians 6:1-2 "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

- **Love Connects** - When we love one another, we are consistently in their lives and know what's going on.
- **Love Corrects** - Love is courageous and doesn't shy away from difficult conversations.
When we love, we will connect before we correct.
- **Love Restores** - The goal of correction is never shame, it's to restore, as the scripture states, gently.

We are Called to Love the Stranger Hebrews 13:2

Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

- **Love is Kind** - God calls us to be hospitable to those we know and don't know.
 - Kindness is a fruit that reflects God's light and love.
 - Kindness leads us to repentance.
 - When we practice Kindness (Hospitality) we have a greater opportunity to lead people to repentance.
- **Love is Vulnerable** - To be hospitable to the stranger is a vulnerable act.

We are Called to Love the Least of These Hebrews 13:3

James 1:27 "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

- **Love compels us to move.**
 - Move towards those who are suffering
 - Move towards those who are forgotten



About Today's Guest:

A pastor's son, Jared Wilkins grew up near Raleigh, N.C. and came to know Christ at the age of 12. Jared values unity and believes in the power of relationships. He seeks to create spaces where people from differing backgrounds come together to find belonging among one another. He served at several dynamic churches across the country before coming to Parkcrest, his last role being one of the teaching pastors at Willow Creek Community Church outside of Chicago. Jared and his wife, Shauna, who originally hails from Queens, have been married for over a decade and are enjoying this sweet season of life with their four young children and Southern California community.

DIGGING DEEPER HEBREWS 13:1-3

1 Preparation If possible, find a quiet and comfortable place. Rid yourself of distractions such as your phone, television, school work, interruptions from others, etc. Open yourself to God and intend to learn from Him. *"Lord, here I am, I present myself to you. Open my heart to the truth of what is going on in my life."*

2 Read the Text: Read *Hebrews 13:1-3* a few times until you have a clear understanding of the passage.

3 Contemplate + Journal Spend time thinking about and journaling your thoughts to the following questions. If you meet with a LifeGroup, you can also share your responses with them and have a great discussion.

- What is a word or phrase the Lord impressed on you in this time? Meditate on that.
- Ask the Lord, "Lord, how do I feel about showing hospitality to others? What do you want to say to me about this?"
- Ask the Lord, "Lord, who is someone in my community you would have me show hospitality to? Is there a stranger you would have me love and show hospitality to?"
- How and what do you feel? Is there a specific situation in your life that relates to this passage today? Pray through this for a moment.

4 Praise + Worship Worship is an act or mindset shift that realigns us to the reality of who God is. Find this song on Spotify, YouTube, AppleMusic, etc. and the lyrics if you would like to read or sing along. Make this song your prayer and declaration of praise and worship as you hear truths being sung over you. Allow the Lord to minister to your heart in this time. **Song Recommendation:** ["Something New" by For All Seasons](#)

5 Closing Prayer Spend some time in prayer. Whether it is simply sitting in God's loving presence, expressing thankfulness and gratitude, and/or offering up supplication, pray what is on your heart.

6 Blessing May you know at the core of who you are "how very much our Father loves you, for He calls you his child, and that is what you are!" (1 John 3:1) And as you go throughout your week, may the Lord bless you as you show His great love and hospitality to others.

Your Response Today: Do you want to take a next step in your faith, ask for prayer, or learn more about following Jesus? Take a moment to fill out our online connection card by texting **"Card"** to **970-00**

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