**Ol;Finding the Word of God for a Sermon**

**The conversation**

Every time I’m on to preach, I have to search my mind for what the Lord wants me to bring to His people here at the New Plymouth Christian Church. NP2C. **There is no magic formula.**

I say to myself self. Self, what does the Lord want this week.

I don’t know says self, don’t you have the Holy Spirit indwelling to ask.

OK. Holy Spirit what’s the sermon this week.

Says the Holy Spirit, what has God been speaking to you about all week?

what has He been saying to you?

The word I always get very strongly every time is**… tell my people I love them**.

**Well Lord** I say.. that’s such a **BIG** subject… there are so many ways to approach that subject.

**Where do I start?**

**In regard to Love** .. do I do a sermon on the Cross and what You did in sending Your ONLY son to die for the sins of the world.

The world who just didn’t really deserve Him at all.

However, you allowed it to happen anyway… and through that, **WE** are now, **free** from the bondage of sin of which under Law we could **never** have redeemed ourselves.

This could only be done by the one and only example… the cross.. The final Baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

*\*The word Christ by the way, comes from the Greek word* ***Christos****, which translates the Hebrew* ***Mashiach [Messiah****] both these words derive from the words which mean anointed with oil. Which is where we get the term* ***anointed one****. The* ***setting aside*** *for, and in this* ***case for the Holy Spirit.***

**He** **Jesus**, was Baptized by His cousin John in the Jordan for the **remission of sin**…..Jesus, a sinless man, he **buried** His life under the waters of Baptism, coming up out of the waters a **new creature** and received the **Baptism of Fire**, the **Holy Spirit** in the form of **a Dove**, He was **tempted** in the wilderness by the Devil, then He started His ministry.

He was again put to death on the cross, the **final Baptism** and is now ruling at the right hand of the Father God for all eternity.

**And because of what you did we are all now Children of God, Kingdom dwellers,**

**on the Earth but NOT of it. And what was written in Ephesians 2**. **6-7.**

**Ephesians 2:6-7** New International Version (NIV)

**6**And God **raised us up** with **Christ** and **seated us with him** in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

**7**in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable **riches** of **his grace**, expressed in his **kindness** to us in **Christ Jesus.**

**Or do I preach** on the Love that You, Jesus showed your disciple’s and even after them letting you down, with some running away from the enemy, after the cross, when they saw you crucified and dying there on Calvary.

I’m sure Lord, that many of us would have done the same, especially when we believed we were going to die if we said we knew you.

You did warn one of them that they would deny you. Three times in fact.

The response of course was

No Lord I will never deny you, but he did.

Imagine the utter shock for him, when after You were resurrected and spoke to him and then lovingly confronted him in asking if he loved you.

Yes he said,

you again repeated, do you love me,

yes he said, after the third time he realized what You were really saying and it all **hit home**… that must have been so difficult for him Lord.

Of course he would never, never forget to ever deny you again, even to his death… **lesson learnt.**

**On the other hand**, do I speak on relationships?

That’s an interesting one Lord.

I’ve Counselled many people over the years and **all types** and in every case I ask them what their religious affiliations are.

Many have none and that’s the **real problem**.

Some hold deep bitterness, they want someone to pay, they want blood. Payback, revenge.

Their un-forgiveness is so bad that they are consumed by it, like a poison, and at times, it’s the only passion they have… how sad Lord

Sometimes they hold their bitterness even well after the death of the person that they had a problem with. To some they fall into cancer or sickness.

Like I’ve said to so many. **The person is controlling you from the grave.**

You need to **forgive them**. But unless a person **understands love**, this is a hard thing to do.

In fact it’s **a gift** from You Lord.

I’m pretty sure forgiveness isn’t a natural instinctive emotion of man.

I know for real, that it’s a gift you gave me many years ago.

And so many are so negative as they have no vision.

Without a vision the people perish. Ive said that to so many.

All they need to do is meet You Lord

**John 3:16**

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who **believes in him** will **not perish** but have **eternal life**. God sent his Son into the world not to **judge the world**, but **to save the world through him.**

\*Lord I continually ask Your advice… Im a Carpenter, You were a Carpenter, we have a lot in common. Thanks for the advice and direction You give me.

I certainly could not do it without you.

I **was** really lost this week. I had not a word,

apart from as I said… **tell them I love them**.

So people… **Jesus Loves you**. ☺

Do you Remember that sermon I did some time ago?

**Jesus loves me**. I showed you all the video clip of it.

**>>SHOW CLIP** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owx3ao42kwI>

Now let’s look at those words again:

Jesus loves me this I know, For the bible tells me so, Littles ones to Him I belong, They are weak but He is strong

Yes, Jesus loves me

Jesus loves me He who died, Heaven’s gate to open wide, He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in

Yes, Jesus Loves me.

Jesus loves me still, when I’m weak and ill, from His shining throne on high, comes to watch me where I lie.

Yes, Jesus loves me

Jesus loves me, He will stay, close beside me all the way, He’s prepared a home for me, and some day His face I’ll see.

Yes Jesus Loves me.

What a song. I remember it from my childhood and have never forgotten it.

If you remember nothing else from this sermon remember the song.

And while on the subject of love, lets not forget this one

[Love](http://www.1000advices.com/guru/love_quotes.html) is patient; love is kind;

love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

So Lord. .. I’ve covered some of what you have shown me.

**Its now time for us to show You**, how much we love You.

**Musicians come**.

**Prayer**

**Lets pray…**

Let us worship you Oh God. Let us show that we love you as much as You love us.

That life just would not be the same without You. You are our reason for living and we are Your children.

You are the Great Alfa and Omega, the beginning and the end. King of King Lord of Lords. The God of our universe.

Blessings Father.

Fill us now with Your Holy Spirit, Father that we will be filled to overflowing.

Bless everyone in this place Lord, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen