

Formed From The Inside Out The Inner Life That Shapes Our Faith



A Heart Turned Outward Various Passages

Sermon Notes | Jeff Randleman | February 8, 2026

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

– 1 John 3:16-18 (ESV)

How Jesus Met Needs:

Jesus met physical needs – John 9: Blind man

Food, shelter, clothing, physical safety, etc.

Jesus met emotional needs – Luke 19: Zacchaeus

To be liked, understood, accepted, loved, respected, etc.

Jesus met spiritual needs – John 4: Woman at the well

To be forgiven and reconciled with God

Spiritual Needs:

Every person needs Jesus (Romans 3:9, 23; John 3:18).

God loves every person and he has provided a way to have a personal relationship with them (John 3:16; Romans 2:4).

God desires to save each lost person — provide salvation (1 Timothy 2:4; 1 John 2:2).

God has chosen to use others to show and share their experience (Acts 1:8).

Developing A Heart For Others:

Show genuine care for others.

Listen to their story and share your story.

Extend an invitation.

Expect a variety of responses.

closed hearts

distracted hearts

shallow hearts

fertile hearts

Follow up with the possible (love) and ask God for the impossible (prayer).

Formed From The Inside Out

The Inner Life That Shapes Our Faith



A Heart Turned Outward

Various Passages

Discussion Questions | Jeff Randleman | February 8, 2026

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

- 1 John 3:16-18 (ESV)

Matters for Reflection and Discussion:

1. Review the three types of needs everyone has. How have you seen or experienced each of these?
2. In the account of Jesus healing the blind man (John 9), what can we learn about the importance of addressing physical needs as part of reflecting God's compassion?
3. How can meeting practical, everyday needs open opportunities for spiritual conversations or ministry in our modern context?
4. When Jesus interacted with Zacchaeus (Luke 19), what specific actions showed emotional care and acceptance? How can we model those same attitudes toward people today?
5. Why do you think emotional needs such as acceptance, respect, and belonging are often overlooked in ministry or relationships?
6. In Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman (John 4), how did he guide the discussion from surface-level concerns to deeper spiritual truth? What can we learn from his approach?
7. Read the following passages: Romans 2:4, 3:9, 23; John 3:16, 18; 1 Timothy 2:4; 1 John 2:2. What do these passages say about spiritual needs and God's desire meet those needs?
8. According to Acts 1:8, why does God choose to use believers as witnesses, and what fears or obstacles might prevent us from sharing our faith experiences?
9. Consider the different heart responses (closed, distracted, shallow, fertile). What are some real-life examples of each, and how should our approach differ with each type?
10. What is the balance between doing what we can through loving actions and trusting God to do what only he can through prayer and spiritual transformation?