

# Love<sup>3</sup>

## WEEK 1: LOVE OF SELF

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Creator God, thank you  
for your gifts that fill all  
aspects of our lives.  
Help us to embrace the  
richness of your  
love for us.  
May we reflect your love  
by loving ourselves that  
we might be blessings to  
others. Amen

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## WEEK 5: OCTOBER 23, 2022

READ Matthew 22:37; 1 Peter 2:4-5; 9-10

Matthew 22:37: He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being,[a] and with all your mind.

1 Peter 2:4-5; 9-10: Now you are coming to him as to a living stone. Even though this stone was rejected by humans, from God's perspective it is chosen, valuable. 5 You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple. You are being made into a holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ....9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people who are God's own possession. You have become this people so that you may speak of the wonderful acts of the one who called you out of darkness into his amazing light. 10 Once you weren't a people, but now you are God's people. Once you hadn't received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## GETTING STARTED

- Welcome each other.
- Inquire as to anyone who is missing. Is follow-up needed?
- Prior to the sermon, what did church stewardship mean to you?



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## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How did you first react to the title of this sermon? "Love of Self"
- Choose one. Agree, Neutral, or Disagree: "Stewardship is about love."
- As Brady Whitton invited his congregants, if you were to do one thing every day that is good for YOU, what would it be? Choose more than one thing if you are so inclined.
- Compare being a good follower or a good servant with feeling accepted as a child of God.
- Do you relate at all to the reflections of John Quincy Adams, "My whole life has been a succession of disappointments."
- What do the concepts of living stones and Royal Priesthood teach us about our roles in the world? What do they have to do with love of self?
- What qualities in a person suggest he/she has internalized a love of self in the image of God?
- How does love of self relate to stewardship?
- As a result of this sermon, how has your notion of stewardship changed? --if it has.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

