

THE JESUS WAY: Living The Jesus Way!

Scripture used: [Luke 10:33–35 \(NLT\)](#); [Romans 8:29 \(NLT\)](#); [Luke 10:27 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

Pastor Hurmon shared that his 60th birthday fell on the weekend after the 2024 Presidential election, as he was preparing a sermon and asking a deeply important question: *How do we move forward together as a congregation?* The answer became the first message in The Jesus Way sermon series. In that season, Pastor Hurmon received two gifts: a joyful birthday celebration with friends from many parts of his life, and a renewed clarity that The Jesus Way is central to NBCC's calling and identity. The Big Idea of the message is that The Jesus Way is not only what we practice; it is also the kind of people we become as we become more like Jesus. God's desire is to form us into the image of His Son, so that we learn to love God fully and love our neighbors with the same self-giving love Jesus has shown us.

KEY POINTS

1. **The Jesus Way forms us into the image of Jesus.** Romans 8:29 reminds us that God has called us to become more like His Son. The Jesus Way is not a set of behaviors to admire. It is a path of formation. As we follow Jesus, His way begins to shape our instincts, our reactions, our relationships, and the kind of people we are becoming.
2. **The Jesus Way teaches us how to love God and love our neighbors.** In Luke 10:27, Jesus summarizes the life God desires: love the Lord with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself. The seven practices of The Jesus Way help us live out that calling in real life: engage their story, kindness, radical empathy, breaking labels, courageous integrity, redemptive forgiveness, and life-changing generosity. These practices equip us to love faithfully in a divided and hurting world.
3. **Jesus teaches us to relearn love as agape love.** Jesus' love is agape love: willing the good of another at great personal cost to ourselves. This love is other-centered, self-sacrificial, unconditional, and redemptive. Many of us have learned distorted versions of love because we were loved by wounded people who had their own stories and pain. The invitation of Jesus is to relearn love from Him, until we become the kind of people who naturally love the way Jesus loves.
4. **The Good Samaritan shows us The Jesus Way in action.** In Luke 10, the Samaritan was the only person who practiced The Jesus Way toward the man who had been robbed, beaten, and left for dead. He did not merely feel compassion; he acted. He soothed the man's wounds, bandaged them, placed him on his own donkey, carried him to an inn, and paid the bill. His love was practical, personal, and directed to others.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - The Samaritan's love was not abstract. It became action, sacrifice, and care for someone in need. Where do you sense God inviting you to become more like Jesus in the way you love others?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Why is agape love impossible to sustain through willpower alone, and how does the Holy Spirit shape us into people who can love this way? What is the relationship between spiritual formation and loving others? Can someone truly become like Jesus without learning to love as He loves?

- 3) **DO** - Take one concrete next step this week to practice [The Jesus Way](#). Choose love in a specific relationship, conversation, or situation where it may cost you something.