

## Series Summary: Real Love

Real Love is a series designed to guide the congregation in embodying the depth, sacrifice, and transformative power of Jesus' love in all areas of life. Each week, the series addresses a unique aspect of love—its expression, boundaries, challenges, and redemptive power—as modeled by Jesus. With anchor scriptures from both the Gospels and New Testament teachings, the series provides a foundation for understanding love as more than emotion: it is a commitment to live according to Jesus' example in every relationship.

#### **Weekly Themes and Key Messages:**

#### 1. The Way of Love

This first message establishes that all love—toward God, self, and others—begins with Jesus' model. Drawing on John 13:34-35 and Matthew 22:37-39, the focus is on how believers can embody sacrificial love in various relationships. From family and friends to neighbors and enemies, Jesus calls us to love selflessly, even when it requires laying down personal desires and serving others.

#### 2. The Way of Marriage

Centered around Matthew 19:1-12, this message explores the sanctity of marriage as designed by God. The scriptural context emphasizes mutual respect, honoring commitments, and the biblical foundation for marriage. By viewing marriage as a reflection of Jesus' love, believers are encouraged to strengthen marital bonds through love, patience, and understanding, following the guidance found in Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3.

#### 3. The Way of Purity

In a culture that normalizes physical indulgence, Jesus' call to sexual purity (Matthew 5:27-30) challenges believers to a countercultural standard. Referencing teachings from Paul and Jesus on honoring God with our bodies, this message emphasizes that purity is integral to discipleship. The message also acknowledges the difficulties of maintaining purity but reassures that Jesus' redemptive love brings healing and transformation. offering hope for those seeking restoration and wholeness.

#### 4. The Way of Reconciliation

With passages like Matthew 5:24-25 and 2 Corinthians 5:11-21, this final message addresses forgiveness and reconciliation in relationships. While forgiveness is a

command, reconciliation may not always be achievable due to complex dynamics or necessary boundaries. Believers are encouraged to pursue peace and forgive others as Jesus taught, while also recognizing that sometimes loving from a distance is essential for personal well-being. This message concludes with a time of communion, reflecting on Jesus' sacrifice and the reconciliation he offers us with God.

#### **Key Goals:**

The series aims to cultivate a genuine, Christ-like love in the congregation by addressing the full spectrum of relational challenges. Through each week's focus, members are equipped to apply the teachings of Jesus to every relationship, with the hope of becoming a community that embodies *Real Love*.

## Series Description:

This Series Description is written to help church members understand the focus and purpose of the series.

Christians are called to love differently than the world loves. The foundation of all our relationships is in our relationship with Jesus. Jesus is our model for how to love. How can our marriages mirror Jesus' love? What does it look like to love our family, friends, neighbors and even enemies like Jesus loved? What does it look like to lay down our wants/desires? Could the way of love like Jesus loved be to serve others?

### Series Asset Content:

■ Bumper Video

at https://jaghq.com. \*\*\*

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☐ Other Graphics	
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## Week 1: The Way of Love

### Description

The series Real Love kicks off with a message called "The Way of Love," exploring love's true essence beyond romance and routine. In a light-hearted intro, we laugh over some "bad" Valentine's gifts, setting the stage for a deeper look at love that isn't just seasonal or symbolic. Jesus teaches that love—God's pure, unconditional love—should be the defining mark of His followers. This love is evident not through labels or outward symbols but through actions that reflect God's love for us. The message walks us through love's origins in God, its ultimate expression in Jesus, and how this love is now entrusted to us to live out. By viewing everyone as "us" and "our," we're reminded to approach all relationships with a spirit of love, not division. Just as Legos are built to connect, we are created to love God and others. This week's challenge? Practice love in every interaction, not because others "deserve" it, but because God first loved us.

#### YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgxCmf1tpGM

# Week 2: The way of Marriage

### Description

This week's message, "The Way of Marriage," is all about diving into the real-life ups and downs that make marriage both challenging and rewarding. We'll be exploring what it takes to honor our commitments even when it's not easy, how to work through the conflicts that naturally arise, and why our differences—like how men can put things in "boxes" and women tend to connect everything—make marriage such an adventure! You'll hear some practical wisdom, a little humor, and timeless insights on how to navigate marriage with grace, patience, and a sense of humor. Whether you're married, considering it, or just curious, there's something in this message for everyone!

#### YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVS6bsxVs9w

# Week 3: The Way of Purity

### Description

This week, we're diving into The Way of Purity with a message that might feel a little upside-down—but that's the point! Just like the Museum of Illusions' Upside-Down House, where everything feels disorienting but unforgettable, this message flips common ideas about relationships, our bodies, and sexuality on their heads. We'll explore why Jesus' teachings on purity are radically different from what society promotes and how they invite us to experience freedom and connection in a way that truly honors who we are. If you've ever wondered about finding balance between today's cultural messages and deeper, lasting truths, this is the message for you. Come ready to see things from a whole new angle!

#### YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlpWzD0rEmg

# Week 4: The Way of Reconciliation

## Description

This week's message, "The Way of Reconciliation," takes us on a journey toward lighter, freer lives through the often challenging but transformative practices of forgiveness and reconciliation. Just like the unique skills and dedication needed in a boxing class, following the way of Jesus requires us to show up, dig deep, and get real. We'll unpack how to let go of offenses that weigh us down, look at forgiveness as a gift we give ourselves, and explore how to take steps toward healing even when reconciliation isn't possible. If you've ever struggled to release past hurts or longed for genuine peace in your relationships, this message offers practical steps and encouragement to begin living the free and wholehearted life Jesus calls us to.

#### YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DS7GMrPWQMk