



DATE February 7, 2016

SPEAKER David Smith

TITLE Visual Symbols

SERIES No one can live without it. If you have everything, but this, you're left with nothing! There is no replacement for it as it's at the heart of humankind's existence. It can be the most difficult word to define, and yet it's essential for emotional health. No relationship can survive without it, and every person can live because of it. Love! So, how do we intentionally love?

1. During Communion this week Pastor David spoke of God's gifts that never fail. What is an example of a gift that does fail?
2. What are some White Elephant gifts you may have stashed away somewhere in your house? How easy or difficult is it to toss them out? If you can't, why not?
3. Some gifts build connections. Have you ever received a gift like Pastor David's coffee mug that was custom made for you? How did you respond based on your love language?
4. Pastor David told us, "If there is one love language that most deeply reflects the heart of God, it is giving gifts." Consider these verses and share what you learn from God that proves this point:
James 1:17, Romans 6:23, Romans 11:29-32,
Ecclesiastes 3:12-13, Ecclesiastes, 5:18-19 and Ephesians 2:4-9
5. In these next verses, what do you discover about your attitude toward giving gifts? How do you think differently now about gift giving or receiving?
Acts 8:20-21, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
6. How do we give out of love rather than calculating what is in it for me, or be able to receive a gift without trying to reciprocate?
7. Share some thoughts from David's sermon that you may have never considered before about gift giving?
8. Read Col 3:17. If there was a time when you thought your motives were pure in giving, but you felt slighted, offended, or hurt when nothing came back to you, describe your thoughts and feelings. If you never felt slighted when nothing was reciprocated, to what do you attribute that?
9. Read Romans 13:8. How does "love one another" fulfill the law? What spiritual surgery will you call upon the Lord to do in your heart to change your attitude in your gift giving?
10. Read Matthew 25:40. How can the simple act of giving a gift honor God?