

Bay City Wesleyan Church  
August 21, 2016

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Sunday Morning 08-21-2106

Our lives will come in line with Jesus' mission when his love flows out of us to others, so touch someone with Jesus' love.

<http://bible.com/events/83603>

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### Love Them Like Jesus

Have you wondered what you can do to help your family and friends who haven't started following Jesus yet? Don't miss a single message in Pastor Mark's series, Love Them Like Jesus. You'll discover the five habits of highly missional people. The best news is that every one of the habits is enjoyable for both your loved ones and for you.

On September 18th, we are celebrating Fresh Start Sunday. That's about 28 days from now. Only 28 days for us all to pray and to invite someone to meet Jesus with us. I'd like to encourage you to fast and pray for that day and the people who attend.

1. This world is not what it ought to be.

Deep in our souls, we know this is true. Our brains tell us it's not rational to think this way, but in the core of our being, we know it's true. This world is broken.

2. The world has not changed much in the last 2000 years.

Technology has changed. But people haven't changed. This broken world has not changed.

### Luke 4:38-44 NLT

After leaving the synagogue that day, Jesus went to Simon's home, where he found Simon's mother-in-law very sick with a high fever. "Please heal her," everyone begged. Standing at her bedside, he rebuked the fever, and it left her. And she got up at once and prepared a meal for them. As the sun went down that evening, people throughout the village brought sick family members to Jesus. No matter what their diseases were, the touch of his hand healed every one. Many were possessed by demons; and the demons came out at his command, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But because they knew he was the Messiah, he rebuked them and refused to let them speak. Early the next morning Jesus went out to an isolated place. The crowds searched everywhere for him, and when they finally found him, they begged him not to leave them. But he replied, "I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent." So he continued to travel around, preaching in synagogues throughout Judea.

3. Sick people flocked to Jesus.

**JESUS TOUCHED THEM AND HIS TOUCH HEALED THEM.** Imagine what that was like for them.

4. Once you've been touched by Jesus' love, your touch can bring a taste of heaven to another person.

Sermon in a Sentence:

Small acts done with Jesus' love will change the world one life at a time.

For as long as I can remember, the people claiming to follow Jesus have focused on telling others what

to believe and how to live. But I've taken a closer look at Jesus' life and work. Jesus focused on loving people. His love motivated him to heal the sick, to feed the hungry, to touch the untouchable, to die and to rise from the grave for all us. Learning to love like him will require sacrifice but it's worth it. We will need to touch hurting people with Jesus' healing love.

The keys to sharing one small touch like Jesus are similar to listening like Jesus.

1. Patience: Plant the seeds of Jesus' love and wait for him to make them grow. His timetable is best.
2. Humility: Give acts of loving service that will help the other person.
3. Respect: Don't serve them just to make them feel like they need to accept your invitation to Fresh Start Sunday. Remember: "no strings attached."
4. Grace: Trust the Holy Spirit to draw others to Jesus. Your responsibility is simply to love them in practical ways.