**Sermon Screens for January 1, 2017**

1. **God’s Love Through Us to Others**, by Pastor Gary London

John 13:34 Jesus said, “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

John 15:12 Jesus said, “My command is this: love each other as I have loved you.”

1. **Love is the first and the greatest.**

1Corinthians 13:1-3, “If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but I don’t love, I’m nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. If I speak God’s Word with power, revealing all His mysteries and making everything as plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, ‘Jump,’ and it jumps, but I don’t love, I’m nothing. If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don’t love, I’ve gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, or what I believe, or what I do, I’m bankrupt without love.”

Matthew 22:36-40, “One of the religion scholars asked, Teacher, which command in God’s Law is the most important? Jesus answered, Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. This is the most important command, the first and greatest on any list. But there’s a second command to go with it: Love others as well as you love yourself. These two commands are pegs, and everything in God’s Law hangs from them.”

1. **Love is the peg.**

John 14:15, Jesus says, “If you love Me, you will obey Me (My commands).”

James 2:8 says, “Love fulfills the law.”

Romans 13:9-10, “The commandments say, You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet. These and other such commandments are summed up in this one commandment: love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God’s law.”

1. **Love is the path to knowing God.**

2John 6, “God’s command is that we walk in love.”

1John 4:7, “Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.”

1. **Love is the heart of the Body of Christ.**

Colossians 3:14, “Love is what holds you all together in perfect unity.”

1Corinthians 14:1, “Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it, because it does.”

1Peter 1:22, “Fervently love one another from the heart.”

Romans 13:8, “Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another.”

1. **Love is the billboard sign of our faith.**

John 13:35 Jesus said, “All men will know you are My disciples if you love one another.”

1John 3:18, “Let us not love only with words or thoughts, but let us love with actions and in truth.”

1. **Love is the proof of God.**

1John 4:8 & 16, “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love…So we know and rely on the love God has for us. Whoever lives in love lives in God and God lives in Him.”

1Corinthians 13:4-8, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.”

1. **Love is the reason and purpose.**

1John 4:9-11, “God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love – not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.”

Ephesians 5:1-2, “Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children and live a life of love just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”