

**Looking to Love**  
**Series: Life on Loan**  
**Sept 12/13, 2009**

At the very core, our basic human need/desire is to love and be loved... God made us that way. The problem is that we seldom, naturally or intuitively, invest our time and effort on the *“to love”* part and most often invest our time and effort on the *“be loved”* part. You see, the “to love” part is others-centered, and by human standards is very unnatural; and the “be loved” part is self-centered, and by human standards is very natural for us.

The truth is that we have already been loved... by God. 1 John 4 says, “God showed how much He loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.” And since He has given His love to us, He has asked us to do something in response to that... to look for opportunities *“to love”* others.

**1. Look for the Intersections of Life**

- **Slow down**
- **Look around**

John 4:35 “...**Look around you! Vast fields are ripening all around us and are ready now for the harvest.**”

- **Pay attention to the people you see**

“We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee.” Marian Wright Edelman

**2. Look for the story behind the people you see**

Luke 10:30-37

**3. Look to Love**

“It seems people don’t necessarily remember what they are told of God’s love, but they never forget what they have experienced of God’s love.” Steve Sjogren