

Living and Loving in Unprecedented Times

January 29, 2022 / Pastor John Tilton

1. Return to Your First Love – Jesus!

“He answered, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind,’ and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” ([Luke 10:27](#))

“Nevertheless, I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place – unless you repent.” ([Rev. 2:4-5](#))

1. Love Given = Love Returned.

“Dear friends let us love one another because love is from God and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.” ([1 John 4:7](#))

“The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” ([Mark 12:31](#))

“No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.”

([1 John 4:12](#))

1. Plan to Love – Love Intentionally.

a. Perspective!

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people.” ([Eph. 1:18](#))

b. Intentionally!

“The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.”

([Prov. 21:5](#))

c. Persevere!

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” ([Phil. 3:14](#))

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” ([Rom. 12:2](#))