A Journey of Love
Part 4 of *The Star: A Journey to Christmas*
John 8:12; Ephesians 3:17-19
Pastor Jon Ashley
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017

1. God Has Loved You from the Start

   "For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves." (Ephesians 1:4–6)

2. God's Love is Enough

   "And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3:17-19)

3. God's Love Overflows in Us

   "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." (1 John 4:7-10)

Conclusion: Follow the star on a journey to Jesus!

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

REFLECT (Questions to respond to this week):

- Read today's Bible passages. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you?
- How do you perceive God's love for you?
- When and why did God start loving us?
- Where are you on the journey of knowing and overflowing God's love?
- Why does Jesus say he is "the light of the world"? What does this mean to you?
- What will you give Jesus for Christmas this year?

Scripture Reading Ephesians 3:17-19 (NIV)

17 …And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Service of Remembrance

Next Sunday, Dec. 31 at 9:00 a.m.

A Journey of Peace

(Luke 2:13-14; Isaiah 26:3; John 16:33)

NOTE: no 10:30 a.m. service next week

NEW SERIES BEGINS JANUARY 7

Discover how to live with **GOD 1ST** in 2018!

Sundays @ 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 7	***Consider Your Ways*** **(Haggai 1:1-15)**
Jan. 14	***Reject Negativity*** **(Haggai 2:1-9)**
Jan. 21	***Evil is Contagious/Choose Holiness*** **(Haggai 2:10-19)**
Jan. 28	***Unshakable*** **(Haggai 2:20-23)**