**Sermon Notes for December 27, 2020**

**Westview Baptist Church**

**J.O.Y – After Advent | After Christmas**

**J – Jesus**

**O – Others**

**Y – Yourself**

*That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.*
 - 1 John 1:1-4 NIV11

*Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.*
 - 1 Peter 4:12-13 NIV11

**Point 1: Our love of Jesus**

*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 4:9-10 NIV11

*This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.* - 1 John 4:13-16 NIV11

**We acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God (vs. 15)**

**We rely on the love God has for us (vs. 16)**

**We do all of this by the power of the Holy Spirit (vs. 13)**

**Point 2: How we respond to Others**

*Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.*
 - 1 John 4:11-12 NIV11

 *At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.*  - Titus 3:3-5a NIV11

*Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.* - 1 John 4:20-21 NIV11

**Point 3: Soul-Care for Yourself**

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.* - 1 John 4:18 NIV11

**SOUL CARE** **is speaking the truth in love in your circle of influence. It is unique to the local church as it is anchored in the Word of God, dependent on the Spirit of God, and practiced in the community of believers. - James MacDonald**