The Church's Call to Relentless Love

Jesus's teaching on how to love another – (Part 2 of 4) We are to love one another in a way that demonstrates passion for the individual disciple Matthew 18:6-17

I. <u>Introduction</u>: A love that finished the race from the 2016 Olympic Games

The broader context of this text in Matthew: teaching the church how to love one another

- II.<u>18:6-10</u> love that is relentlessly tough on oneself,
so as to not damage the faith of others in the church
 - 2 Peter 2 God will judge those who cause His sheep to stumble, while preserving and protecting His people

Examine yourself for what is hurting the faith of others, and kill it, or be killed

III.8:11-14 – love that relentlessly pursues the straying individual disciple,
seeking to restore them to the fold

Think little! Think of the one!

IV. <u>8:15-17</u> – love that relentlessly confronts the sin of a straying individual disciples in order to win them back into the family

Confront carefully: one-on-one, with witnesses, before the church with the goal of repentance and restoration

Is it weakness or wickedness?

- love in a manner that sets aside personal comfort and confronts a brother or sister in the hope of bringing them to repentance
- V. <u>Conclusion</u>: Song of Songs 8:6