**A Stronger Faith And A Deeper Love**

**Speaker: Shane Gage, August 2, 2020**

*Series: Steady And Sure Series, 1 Thessalonians Chapter 3*

**6**But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your faith and love. He has told us that you always have pleasant memories of us and that you long to see us, just as we also long to see you. **7**Therefore, brothers and sisters, in all our distress and persecution we were encouraged about you because of your faith.  **8**For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord.  **9**How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?  **10**Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

**11**Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you.  **12**May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.  **13**May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones. - **1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 (NIV)**

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. - **1 Timothy 1:5**

\* What A **Stronger Faith** And A **Deeper** **Love** looks like . . .

\* To **forgive** one another requires a stronger faith and a deeper love.

The legacy of John Lewis – a champion of justice and civil rights, but also a follower of Jesus who exhibited **Faith**, **Love**, and **Forgiveness** . . .

The hard work of forgiveness . . .

 … “overlooking offenses” for the “small” things.

 … forgiving those who have hurt us deeply.

To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner

was **you**. - Lewis Smedes

To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you. - C.S. Lewis

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

  **- Colossians 3:13**