**What should a diocese make a priority for 2023?**

It should listen deeply to these words of Zach Meerkreebs on 8 Feb 2023, (edited) and work out how to provide the conditions necessary for the people of the diocese to experience the love of God. (Edited transcript from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGvvGbgUmMU>)

“I can’t get rid of preference without the love of Jesus making me want to give up preference.
I can’t forgive my enemies. I can’t forgive my Dad who abused me, except if I am loved by Jesus.
I can’t forgive those churches that did me wrong until I am experienced in the love of Jesus
– so that I can love Jesus.

You are not going to be a loving nurse, teacher, pastor, preacher, parent, lover
in the way that you want to, until you experience the love of God.

We love because He first loved us.

So we must become love-in-action, but what is the source of your love?
Take a picture of this.
If your picture of love is white-knuckling it, trying really hard, or is it the love of God for you?

What is the purpose of your love?
Is it to look good at chapel? Is it to look good to your family?
Is it to get a return from the person you are giving love to?
That’s not this love we’re talking about.

And who, or what, are you becoming through this expression of love?
If you are loving someone and not becoming more like Jesus, then I would go search what that love really is.

Some of us need to sit in the love of God. Some of us need to taste it and see,
and experience the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because if you want to become love. If you really want to become love-in-action,
you start by prostrating yourself before the love of God.

If you want to become love-in-action then you need to experience the love of God.

Are you convinced? We can’t do those 30 commands in that passage from Romans 12. You can’t earn your way to heaven. You can’t blow people’s hair back by your love and your leadership.
You have to experience the love of Christ in your life.

Do not think you are going to do all this stuff in your own strength.
Do not leave here before you learn about the love of God; experience the love of God,
so that you can pour it out, pour it out, pour it out, and He’ll fill you back up.

Everyone in your life and the whole world needs a bunch of Christians experience the love of God so that they can pour out the love of God – and not through their own efforts and not through their own knowledge, but because they are filled with His love.

I pray that this sits on you guys like an itchy sweater, that you’ve got to itch, you’ve got to take care of it. So experience His love. Become the love of God by experiencing the love of God.

Jesus, do a new thing in our midst, revive us by Your love. And they all said, Amen!”