

# North Weekly Devotional

Kelley Lowder

**Song:** [Love Lifted Me](#)

**Text:** 1 Peter 4:8 “Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.”

**Explanation:** As Peter wrote to the new believers of the church, he wanted to give instruction on how they were to live in community with other believers. The term ‘fervent’, means for believers to be intentional and passionate in their love for one another. “Above all” the church is--we are--to make sure we receive fellow believers from a place of love. It’s also important to note that Peter is honest with the fact that believers *will* commit a “multitude of sins.” No one should expect perfection.

**The Point:** As believers, it is most important that we look at one another, not from a place of critique, but from a place of love, cheering one another on in our walk with the Lord.

## **Application:**

**Pre-K:** Generally speaking, children love without hesitation. We actually could learn from them. Just this week my 7 year old saw a homeless boy outside the pharmacy. She didn’t question his life choices. She immediately saw his need, and wanted to help. I would encourage you to let your child lead the family prayer this week. See the world through the loving eyes of them.

**Middle School/High School:** Have your teenager take a selfie shortly after they wake up. Then ask them to add a filter on it that would make it acceptable to post on social media. (They don’t have to post it) Ask them to explain the difference between the first picture and the second. Then explain to them that the filter is love. Without love, it’s easier to see flaws. However, when you look at something through the filter of love, a multitude of imperfections vanish.

**Adults:** Has a child ever made you a homemade gift? Isn’t it special when they craft those handprint ornaments, or bring you something they made at school, especially for you? My grandmother loved Native Americans. My children knew it too. (Well, anyone who walked in her house knew it. She had artifacts displayed in every room of her house). One day, my son Cohen, who was probably 4 at the time, used his crayons on a thin, wrinkled piece of paper to “draw Indians for grandma”. When he gave it to her, she smiled from ear-to-ear and gave him a kiss. The next time we visited, there was Cohen’s drawing, in a frame hanging above her kitchen table. Now, I think Cohen is a genius artist, but even I didn’t think that particular piece of work was his most frameworthy piece. Not so to Grandma. She looked at the art with love. She didn’t care what medium it was on, or how it was composed. It had value to her. We should make an effort to treat other believers with the same respect.

**Song:** [Reckless Love](#)

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord, for your son Jesus, who looked down on us with Love and truly did lift us from the depths of our sin. Without him, there is no hope. Lord, please remind us that our job as believers is to share the hope of Jesus with the world. More importantly, let us walk in the commandment to love one another, especially to encourage other believers, and fervently love. God, when it may seem hard in the natural to overlook a deed or action that was taken, let us remember to approach one another the way you approach us. With a reckless love. In Christ name. Amen.