

Gospel Talk Bible Study
God With Us
A Study of John's Gospel: "Dynamic Love"
John 13:31-35

August 12, 2020

A new commandment I give you, *that you love one another, just as I have loved you*, you also are to love one another."
– John 13:34

I. For the Glory of God (vv.31-33)

- a. From the human perspective, the death of Christ was a tragedy, but from a divine perspective it was for the glory of God. (Read John 17:4)
- b. This is the way all of us glorify the Father, by faithfully doing what He calls us to do.
- c. The time would come when Jesus would be glorified in the disciples, but their time had not come.
- d. During this time of Jesus' suffering and death, it was important they did not follow Him to Calvary.

II. The Christian's Dynamic Love

- a. The *newness* rests in it being the law of the *new covenant* which Jesus established in His death.
- b. In the light of the cross all other descriptions and definitions of love pale in comparison.
- c. The *new covenant* brings the new life in the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to love like Christ.
- d. Christ loved us – We love each other – Our love witnesses to lost souls that we are His

Because Christ is the originator of love, within each of these exists the capacity for unconditional forgiveness, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control

- e. Faith and the Spirit combine to bring about miracle working love.
- f. The Christian believer is to love like Jesus. How does Jesus love? (Bottomless well/love bucket)
- g. Jesus commands His disciples to love one another. Can someone truly be commanded to love?
 1. If you have a willing heart.
 2. It depends if you are submitted to the One who commanded you.
 3. If you know that your love will glorify the Father.
- h. Why did Jesus have to give a command? If we are in Christ, why isn't it assumed or guaranteed that love will always be among us?
- i. The Christian love was designed to broadcast to the world that we are disciples of Jesus Christ.
- j. In what ways does/should our love *witness* to the world?

III. Learning to Love Like Christ

- a. Where did you learn to love? Where did you learn to love like Christ?
- b. According to Jesus, the expectation is the Christian community will love as He commanded.
- c. Christ emphasized the evangelistic power of love that is demonstrated in a loving community.
- d. Jesus placed no limit on this demonstration of love.
- e. The church's inclusiveness is to duplicate the universal appeal of Jesus. *Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.* (Matthew 11:28)
- f. We welcome all people, regardless of background, age, gender, color, moral history, social status, influence, intelligence, religious background or the lack of it.
- g. Christ invited us into *His* dynamic love and then commands us to love as we follow Him.
- h. The world can't teach Godly love. We can only learn eternal love by knowing Christ through His Word, Spirit and His Church.
- i. When you want to become a loving person, pray for the transforming and empowering work of the Holy Spirit, but also look to Jesus in His Word.