

SERMON NOTES

Reason to Believe: Loving One Another
John 13:31-38

Judas has departed; Jesus now turns His attention to the remaining disciples. He knows the urgency and the immediacy of the hour. With a clear reference to His death and resurrection, Jesus gives His followers an emphatic command. He commanded them to follow His example and love one another.

Key thought: Loving one another, like Jesus loves, validates our testimony and draws people to Christ.

LOVE'S EXAMPLE (vs. 31-33)

- Glory/Glorified
 - You glorify God when you seek to fulfill His purpose for your life
 - You glorify God when you obediently fulfill His will for your life
- Son of Man

The “Son of Man” is Jesus’ own self-description—He uses the title twelve times in the Gospel of John. Jesus is called both the “Son of God” and the “Son of Man.” While there are many historical and theological reasons for doing so, in it’s most basic explanation, “Son of God” refers to His deity but “Son of Man” to His humanity.
- Immediately – to make straight or to govern (Proverbs 3:5-6)

LOVE ONE ANOTHER (vs. 34-35)

- Jesus commands us to love one another!

“A new commandment I give to you”

The commandment to love was not new, but the standard of this love was new. This is the only place in John’s narrative that Jesus uses the word “new.” *Leviticus 19:18*

- Jesus tells us how to love one another!

“Even as I have loved you”

“It is the death and resurrection which really shows us what love is.” *Leon Morris*

- Greet one another (Romans 16:16)
- Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
- Be patient, bearing with one another (Ephesians 4:2)
- Encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13)
- Honor one another (Romans 12:10)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:31)

- Jesus tells us why we are to love one another!

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- Validates our testimony
- Draws people to Christ

“Their mutual love would be the strongest possible argument for the Christian faith.” *Charles Ryrie*

LOVE CALLS FOR LOYALTY (vs. 36-38)

- The Lord knows if you love Him.
- The Lord will expose the limits of your love for Him.
- The Lord will give you opportunity to grow in your love for Him.