A. Love Puts us in the Right Place (vv. 20-24):

1. The Greeks came for answers as Christ prepared to die.
2. Jesus responds to the question from the Greeks with a message we must now make as pattern for our daily lives.
3. Christ took the time to verbalize this message to His disciples; that He had no intention to stop saying.
4. This is the determined time that God put in place. It is a time that was determined by the Lord. No turning back.
5. The disciples need to fix their mind to believe in what God is about to do.
6. The time has come to bring to light who Christ is in His full revelation.
7. What Christ is repeatedly saying is emphatically going to be. As a result of this, Christ fervent desire is for us to exercise our faith (“So be it” or “it shall be so” ’Amen' 'let it be so' ‘thus it shall be).
8. A one-time decision to submit to God's will. This is a person who makes a one-time decision to fall down like a tower on a building falling down. 
9. We must renounce or abandon anything that does not allow us to be totally confirmed to Christ's death (Luke 14:26-27). Being about God's business should be our everything we do at all cost (Philippians 1:21; 3:7-11).
10. The seed must remain in place to die. We must stand firm or steadfast in being about God's business if we are going to experience denying ourselves.
11. If we remain, no matter the difficulties, we will experience the Holy Spirit's power present which is evidence that Christ is real and the will of God is true. The true nature of the tree will become evident if the seed remains in the ground and die.

B. Love Can Lead Us to Hate (v. 25):

1. A person who is persistently bound to their desires with a deep obligation to fulfill them.
2. A person who is obligated to what they think or feel on the inside. It is the non-material inner life of human beings which the body serves as a dwelling place. The soul and the inner self is attached to feelings and thinking.
3. This person can be cut off from the inner working of the Holy Spirit (John 15:5). This means that a person can continually lose everything, be ruined or if they are not saved go to hell.
4. Consistently has a strong dislike for what is contrary to the will of God. When a person consistently has a strong dislike or disregard for the way they think or feel it contradicts God's Word. They will despise their 'life in this world.' This is to spit at someone in their heart.
5. A person who despises what the fallen rebellious world propagates. This person is not controlled by what is taking place externally.
6. A person pervers their life when they guard God's Word in their hearts like David (Psalm 119:11).
7. If a Christian meets the testing of life with a steadfast spirit which Christ can give, life becomes infinitely more splendid than it ever was before. This person, at the judgment seat of Christ receives the crown of life (Rev. 2:10):
   a) Quite often in both the NT and OT, crowns are symbols of God's blessings on his people - The Greek word for “crown” here (stephanos) probably refers not to a royal crown but to the laurel wreath given to victorious athletes - The “crown that offers life” is also an eschatological promise of reward ( Prov 1:9 ; 4:9 ; 12:4 ; 16:31 ; 17:6.
8. The life which is God's continues with unbroken duration to an endlessness with Christ. Having a beginnings but no end.
C. Love Stimulates Sacrifices that God Honors (v. 26):

1. A believer who chooses to continuously live like a slave before Christ is willing to do whatever He ask of them.
2. A believer’s faithfulness establishes the Lordship of Christ directing their lives. To continually follow Jesus denotes a fellowship of faith as well as a fellowship of life, sharing in His sufferings not inwardly, but outwardly if necessary. To follow or accompany someone who takes the lead in determining the direction and route of movement.
3. Whatever Christ instructs us to do or wherever He sends us we will trust Him completely because we believe that He is and will always be.
4. This slave remains with Christ in death or in life because they view themselves as fully belonging to God.
5. A believer who chooses to continuously live like a slave before Christ is willing to do whatever He ask of them.
6. God is the one who began this walk of faith. The one who is the instrument of our spiritual birth, by converting us to the Christian faith, and is the author and beginning of everything. God is the one who is the author of our faith.
   a) God acts as our Father. He rewards us ( Matt. 6:1 ); disciplines us ( John 15:2 ); listens to our prayers ( Matt. 6:6 ); knows and meets our needs ( Luke 12:30 ); gives us good gifts ( Matt. 7:11 ); is merciful to us ( Luke 6:36 ); and dearly loves us ( John 16:27 ). O.T. saints knew that God was “like a Father” to Israel. Jesus brings the awesome God of the O.T. into fresh, intimate perspective. He is “our Father.”
7. God will lift up, respect the slave who endlessly, no matter the suffering, faithfully served and walked with the Lord.