True Love

John 13:34-35

Sermon Outline

A. Committed to Love (vs. 34):

1. **New commands** – God’s command to love it is not a suggestion.

2. **New commands** – This old commandment became new because Christ death and resurrection allows them to experience the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives (John 15:12-17).

3. **I give you** – Notice this command was given after Judas left.

4. **I give you** – The command is directed to those who walk with Christ.

5. **I give you** – This command remains forever.

6. **That you love one another** – This commandment is to once and for all to demonstrate compassion towards the needs of others.

   a) Love is the one characteristic that Satan cannot counterfeit. Believers are to be characterized by love (cf. 1 John 3:14; 4:20).

   b) The disciples are going to experience a lot of tribulation (John 16:33). He challenges them later to abide in His Word, this way they bear much fruit (John 15:1-5) so be his disciples (John 15:8-11) as well as His friend (John 15:12-14).

7. **That you love one another** - Love is the one characteristic that Satan cannot counterfeit.

8. **That you love one another** – This commandment is to once and for all willfully sacrifice for each other.

9. **That you love one another** – This love is not based on a person’s feelings but is directed and controlled by a believer’s commitment to the principles of God (Matthew 22:36-40) as they relate to each other (1 John 4:7; 2:3-6).

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10. **That you love one another** – This kind of love is a once and for all decision to do the following:

a) Help someone in need (1 John 3:18).

b) The source of love is God (1 John 4:7), therefore we must submit to His will by obeying what He says we must do to others no matter how we feel (Matthew 22:36-40).

11. **As I have loved** – The love that Christ continuously provided the disciples is the love they need to share with others. When the disciple’s function in this manner, God’s love is perfected in them (1 John 4:12).

a) "*Greater love has no one than this that one lay down his life for his friends.*" (John 15:13).

b) "*By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 14 We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.*" (1 John 4:13-14; NASU)

14. **One another** – This love does not depend on how the other person acts it is obedience to God (Romans 12:9-12).

**B. Love Shows (vs. 35):**

1. **All men will know** – Everyone in every nation will come to a complete understanding where they approve that we are true followers of Christ.

2. **Disciples** – The recognition that the world gives highlights the fact that we learn, accept and adhere to the instruction Christ provides no matter the sacrifice.

3. **You are my disciples** - A willful decision to love represents a true follower of Christ (1 John 3:14).

4. **You are my disciples** - Because we have a complete word from God we know how to love (1 John 2:3-5).

5. **You are my disciples** - The believers who function as described above are continuously under the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit (‘my’ disciples; Ephesians 3:16-19). They fully sense the movement of the Holy Spirit in their lives in the following manner:

a) At the point of salvation, we get all the Holy Spirit in us (Titus 3:4-8; 1 John 4:7).
b) Reminds us of the Word of God (John 14:26).

c) Illuminates the Word (1 Corinthians 2:10-15).

d) Blesses us to live by faith and not by sight (Romans 8:28).

e) Guides us to truth (John 14:17; 16:13).

f) Helps us to overcome fear (Romans 8:15; 2 Tim. 1:7).

g) Put to death the misdeeds of the body (Romans 8:13; Galatians 5:16-21).

h) Convicts us of sin (John 16:7-11).

k) He gives us strength to be overcomers (Romans 8:37; 1 John 4:4).

6. **You have love for one another** – Because of the fruit of the Spirit we can selflessly care for each other.

7. **You have love for one another** – At a time when those who claim to be committed to God’s Word but hate Christ, Christ repeats His directive for us to deliberately obey His Word as they relate to each other.

8. **You have love for one another** – Christ concludes by repeating the directive for the disciples to willfully decide to unselfishly commit to demonstrate compassion towards one another.

9. **You have love for one another** – True disciples can therefore willfully, no matter what, love anyone (Romans 12:14-21).

10. **You have love for one another** – Being a true disciple is all that is needed to love anyone (1 John 1:5-7; 2:9-11).