

1 Cor 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

31 So, when he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. 32 If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately. 33 Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you. 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

36 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward."

37 Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake." 38 Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times."

1Jo 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

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WHEN is a time stamp — telling us that the next event flows from what had just happened. Jesus washed the disciples feet. Jesus has just told the twelve that one of them was going to betray Him. John was leaning in to Jesus and asked who it would be. Jesus revealed that it was Judas, he honored him with food.

Now that Judas is gone. Everything was set in motion for His arrest, trials, humiliation, condemnation, beatings, crucifixion, and burial.

Jesus declares the cross as supreme glorification, not supreme humiliation.

Glorified - 5 times - greatest value, worth, significance, weight, substance - from God's perspective is the work of the Cross - humble glory - nothing proves to us more the depth of love God has for humanity.

33 Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you.

Little children: τεκνίον teknion - This is the only place in the Gospels where Jesus addressed His disciples as little children.

Paul using the word once (Galatians 4:19), John is the only one to use it in the entire New Testament. John uses it NINE times in his first epistle

He was not insulting them. He meant it with a sense of tenderness, care, and recognition of their present dependence and immaturity.

Rom 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Gal 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

I shall be with you a little while longer . . . Where I am going, you cannot come: Instruction new phase - HS

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Talking about a commandment of God - Jesus - this is not optional - there is no wiggle room here

spiritual attack - this is how we win

A New Commandment: new as in fresh, refreshed, - Loving others is commanded in the Old Testament.

Leviticus 19:18 Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the LORD.

What makes this old rule new, fresh - “love one another, **as I have loved you**” BOOM!

Love was newly defined from His example.

As I have loved you - is radical - is a game changer - mind blowing - overwhelming and exciting - god's commandments are also his enablements.

God is Love - created in God's image - we were made for Love - Created to love and be loved. God and people.

That has gone awry in the world - people do all sorts of strange and bad things when they don't feel loved, don't feel wanted - destructive behavior - lack of love

Christianity is a restoration to the way things were meant to be. - Glimpse - foreshadow - taste of heaven.

We are meant to be an expression of the Love of God - we are commanded to love one another with the love of God.

by this all will know that you are my disciples - Jesus planted the flag - declared the identity and potency of the church - in the world - fallen world - where people are looking for love - the reputation of the church - clear connection to christ - staked it on how well we love one another

If we are to be a glimpse of heaven on earth - unfettered intentional love - for one another - people will look and say that they belong to Jesus.

Disciples - learners - studiers - imitators - making mistakes at loving - and learning from those mistakes. In the course of love -

The love we are learning, growing, exercising - agape love. Godly Love - Christ like love

Agape is from God - this sort of love is a different sort of love that we are not accustomed to as humanity. Generally we have a self-orientated sort of love. Human orientated love that is self centered because of our fallen nature and shaped by our culture, that says I am number one, I come first, I need to look out for me.

Agape love is from God - not the normal self oriented love -that says what can I get out of it - i will love you is you love me - I will give to you if you give to me - I will meet your needs if you meet my needs

agape love - comes from a different source - different origin - agape love - love one another - from God

god himself is agape love - God is love - in his very essence - in his very nature God is love - God does not merely sometimes act in loving ways - everything that God does is loving - because god is love - receive by faith -

receive with faith like a child - we who have been born again - born into the family of God - children trust the father - baby in arms

Agape love has been demonstrated by God - God showed how much loved us - by sending His son into the world - to save us - that we might have eternal life.

He gave his son for us - Agape love has been demonstrated by God - John 3:16 - god so love the world that he GAVE..

Essence of agape love, is a love that gives - not a love looking for a return on the investment - it is a love that gives selflessly

You can't give more than Giving Jesus.

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Agape is the way God loves us - we love because of what we will get out of it - in our sin - we are all together unlovely to God - nothing to offer - God does not love you because you are lovable - he loves us with a perfect love - in spite of our failures

Free from trying to appear lovely to God - ever live trying to please somebody - earn their approval? Parent - spouse - leader - boss - we have been free from trying to earn the love of God

Those who have experienced agape, agape each other. Great love - is the lay down your life for your friends.

Jhn 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

If you are ever wondering if you should forgive, remain bitter, share resources, pick up the fallen one, encourage the one who is broken, share one another burden - love one another in the same way I have loved you.

Love one another - IS NOT BASED ON FEELING!

Church- you don't get to choose who is in it.

Every single church is made up off jacked up, messed up people, you can't be in the church unless you are broken.

You can't be in the church unless you recognize that you are broken and sinful - you sin, you cause sin, and you have been the victim of sin - and because of it you are smelly and jacked up. You are not a member of the church.

Sanctification is not immediate - we are II in progress of being healed - all brokenness, carnality, selfishness, - wish it all went away when born again.

Grudges, bitterness - stick around - the penalty goes away - healing begins in our hearts - we have a new power to deal with our hearts - hope and promise that we will one day be in heaven - enemy defeated - death defeated - no more sin, sorrow, or pain. Creation is restored and we no longer deal with a sinful nature and everyone will be lovable

the call to agape - we are called to selfless, beautiful, caring, unhindered love for the unlovely, undeserving,

1Pe 4:8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."

Love earnestly "to hold one's self to a thing, to lay hold of a thing, to adhere or cling to - reach out and grasp"

Present active verb: continue to lay hold of this thing (love)

Essence: Practice your love for one another, until you progress at it.

since love covers a multitude of sins. - I think this means that our ability to love allows us to look over the mistakes of others.

Because "earnestly loving" will cultivate an environment where wrongs are let go. And that is an environment the church should be like.

1 Cor 13:5 - [Love] does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Remember it is a commandment to love one another - disregard - allows the disease of resentment, bitterness, anger to brew in the church - Love will release the tension in the room - love breaks the cycle of bitterness.

Bitterness is a strange and terrifying thing. It can cause to angry people to be completely blind to their own sin, and completely deaf to the grievances of the other. I've seen where both sides in a conflict had been hurt, and both had valid grievances, and yet were so angry and embittered that it was impossible for them to hear even the most reasonable suggestion from the other party. And when both sides were like this—terrible ordeal that breaks apart friendships and pulls people in.

Bitterness is a church bomb with a slow fuse- and love is the defuser.

It is self-sacrificial - counter to the way that we feel.

Since agape love is not based on feelings - it is a truer - purer love - not about do I feel loved - are my needs met - am I being pleased, do I like you - do we click - do we get along - what do I get out of it. -

it feels so good to be freed from that self absorption - the cross frees us from that self-absorption - the one who loves us sacrificed himself for us - gave himself up willingly - Jesus says no one takes my life from me - I have the power to lay it down, and the power to take it up again.

Jesus gave himself for the joy that was set before him - us being reconciled to him - gladly gave himself - so that now - we as those who are loved by God - can love one another in that same way.

It feels Good to be free from self-absorption through gospel of Jesus Christ

at the beginning of the day and end of the day - I am pretty selfish - self absorbed - pretty concerned about how I feel, my ego, who hurt me - who's looking at me - and what I am going to get out of it.

We all need a power that is outside ourselves - to rescue us from our self-absorption

we love because we are loved

this love we are talking about is resourced by God - it isn't something you muster up.

Agape love is from God - ask God - help me to love people

Agape is from God - God I need help to love in the way that I have been loved by God.

There is a real change that happens in us - before we only have the old nature that was contrary to god - the sin nature - now we have the new nature which is alive to God and responsive to God -

Galatians five tells us that the spirit wages war against the flesh - and there is a real struggle that goes on in the inner man - old self and new self - one day that will be done away with - but now we must know - is that we truly have a new feature - that is alive to God - empowered by God - filled with the love of God - love in a different

Everyone who knows God - loves God - the more time we spend with the Lord - more love

short with God - short with people

the fruit of the spirit is love ....

Rom 5:5 ..For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love

if we love one another - His love is brought to full expression in us -

the church is the continued unfolding, revelation, and experience of God's love

We love each other - and we are the primary means by which we are to experience God's love for us - through each other.

If we love and take care of each other like family And we are honest, hard working, free from worldly ambition, not busy bodies (media—facebook) And we love each other - The world will notice - Point them to Jesus

36 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?"

Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward."

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Big heart - lacks understanding - lacks courage - lacks Christ alive in Him - the hope of glory - Peter knew his heart was broken, left all to follow Jesus - didn't know how broken, until he denied the Lord - revelation of brokenness, yields to great usefulness in the hand of God - He who is forgiven much, loves much!

## **Affirm - Share - Serve**

### **Affirm**

#### **1. Affirm one another's strengths, abilities, and gifts.**

Romans 12:10: "Honor one another"

James 5:9: "Don't grumble against each other"

Romans 12:3-8: Confirm the gifts of one another

#### **2. Affirm one another's equal importance in Christ.**

Romans 15:7: "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you"

1 Corinthians 12:25: "Have equal concern for each other"

1 Peter 5:5: "Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another"

James 2:1: "Don't show favoritism"

#### **3. Affirm one another through visible affection.**

Romans 16:16: "Greet one another with a holy kiss"

James 1:19: "Be quick to listen, slow to speak"

Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another"

1 Thessalonians 3:12: "[May] your love increase and overflow for each other"

### **Share**

#### **4. Share one another's space, goods, and time.**

Romans 12:10: "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love"

1 Peter 4:9: "Offer hospitality to one another"

Galatians 6:10: "As we have opportunity, let us do good"

#### **5. Share one another's needs and problems.**

Galatians 6:2: "Carry each other's burdens"

1 Thessalonians 5:11: "Encourage one another"

Hebrews 3:13: "Encourage one another daily"

#### **6. Share one another's beliefs, thinking, and spirituality.**

Colossians 3:16: "Teach and admonish one another"

Ephesians 5:19: "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs"

Romans 12:16: "Live in harmony with one another"

1 Corinthians 1:10: "Agree with one another"

## **Serve**

### **7. Serve one another through accountability.**

James 5:16: "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other"

Romans 15:14: "Instruct one another"

Ephesians 4:25: "Speak truthfully"

### **8. Serve one another through forgiveness and reconciliation.**

Ephesians 4:2: "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love"

Colossians 3:13: "Forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another"

Galatians 5:25: Don't provoke or envy one another

James 4:11: "Do not slander one another"

Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15: Reestablish broken relationships with one another

### **9. Serve one another's interests rather than our own.**

Hebrews 10:24: "spur one another on toward love and good deeds"

Romans 15:1-2: Don't please yourself but please others

Galatians 5:13: "Serve one another"