



A New Commandment | John 13:1-38

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In John 13, Jesus identified brotherly love as the unique mark and responsibility of His disciples. Throughout the chapter, Jesus modeled what that kind of sacrificial love looks like to give us clear examples to follow.

The love of Christ is displayed in John 13 through...

1. Sacrificial Service (13:2-11)

2. Patient Instruction (13:12-17)

3. Tender Care (13:16-30)

4. Longsuffering Grace (13:16-30)

5. Hope for the Future (13:31-38)

Questions to Consider

1. The Greek word *agape* is used in the New Testament mostly to speak of deep and sacrificial love that is expressed in actions. In the Gospel of John, it appears overwhelmingly in chapters 13-17, which focus on Jesus preparing His disciples. What might be the significance of the word showing up repeatedly in those chapters?
2. Have you ever washed the feet of another believer? What are some similar acts of sacrificial service that others have done for you? Do you ever wrestle with the sense that a particular act of service seems too menial?
3. How is God using you to patiently instruct (or encourage or disciple) someone by helping that person to grow in wisdom from God's Word?
4. There are times when warning someone may be the most loving thing we can do. We may warn to prepare them for suffering or warn someone who is straying into sin. Can you think of a time when someone served you through a biblical warning?
5. Judas is a unique example, but there are still people in our lives who are difficult or cause pain. Is there someone who has caused or may cause pain to you, that you are currently seeking to show longsuffering grace?
6. In what way does your brotherly love need to grow?