**Living on the promises of Jesus – John 13:34 – 35**

**Focal Truth: Jesus promises when believers love each other they will prove to the world they are His disciples**

**Observations**

1. **Jesus gave a new commandment to His disciples to love each other when He left the world – 13:33 - 34**

*Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, where I am going, you cannot come. A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that also love one another*

1. Jesus **commanded** the disciples to love each other 13:34

His command is a **new commandment – new based on the relationship of believers with one another in Christ**

His command is a **personal commandment** 15:12 - *this is My commandment*

His command is an **authoritative commandment** 15:17 – *this I command you*

1. Jesus commanded the disciples to **love each other**

Love = agapeo – sacrificial love like Jesus love for them

Loving each other as servants

Loving each other as those loved by Christ

Loving each other as those united together as the body of Christ

1. Believers love each other practicing Christlike love

Eph. 4:1 – 2 – *walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called with all humility and gentleness with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*

Loving each other with Humility

Loving each other with gentleness

Loving each other with patience

Loving each other with tolerance

1. Believers love each other because they share the blessings of God’s grace in Christ

Eph. 4:4 – 7 – *there is one body, and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift*

Loving each other united in one body of Christ

Loving each other baptized & filled & gifted by the Holy Spirit

Loving each other called in hope of eternal life

Loving each other following one Lord Jesus Christ

Loving each other trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation

Loving each other baptized together to testify of our commitment to follow Jesus

Loving each other with God as our Father

Loving each other sharing in the grace of God each day of our lives

*Beloved, let us love one another for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God – 1 John 4:7*

1. **Jesus commanded His disciples to love each other as He had loved them – 13:34**

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you love one another*

1. Believers love each other as Jesus Christ has love them

Jesus loved the disciples everyday – 13:1

Jesus loved the disciples to the end – 13:1

Jesus loved the disciples serving them – 13: 13 -14

Jesus loved the disciples sacrificing himself for them – 15:13

Jesus protected the disciples in love – 17:12

Jesus loved as the example of love

Jesus loved the disciples – in word, deed & truth

Jesus loved the disciples with patience, kindness & unconditional acceptance

*This is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also – 1 John 4:21*

Now as to love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another – 1 Thess. 4:9

1. Believers are empowered by the Holy Spirit to love each other

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self – control against such things there is no law. Not those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another – Gal. 5:22 – 26*

1. **Jesus promised that the world will know His disciples by their love for each other 13:35**

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

1. The world understands what a Christian is by the way Christians love each other
2. Believers love for each other is the greatest mark of apologetics!
3. The witness of Jesus Christ in the world is based on believer’s love for each other
4. Believers live in the love of Christ & love each other in the world

Acts. 11:25 -26 – *for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and* ***the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch***

*We have passed from death into life if we love the brethren 1 John 3:14*

***We are one in the Spirit we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit we are one in the Lord…and they will know we are Christians by our love, by our love, they will know we are***

***Christians by our love***

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Live & love each other like Jesus – 1 John 3:16 – *we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren*
2. Love each other fervently from the heart – 1 Pet. 1:22
3. Keep on loving each other in all the circumstances of life – Heb. 13:1

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that also love one another*

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**