

The Greatest Sacrifice Notes05242026am

A Memorial Day Sunday Sermon

John 15:9–17

Theme: Remembering earthly sacrifice while pointing people to the greater sacrifice of Christ and the calling of believers to live sacrificially for others.

In John 15, Jesus speaks to His disciples just hours before Calvary. These are not abstract theological words. They are farewell words from a Savior preparing to lay down His life. And in this passage, Jesus teaches us what true sacrificial love looks like.

I. _____ Love Begins With the Love of Christ. (John 15:9–10)

“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.” — John 15:9

The word “love” here is the Greek word *agapaō* — speaking of _____, _____, _____ love. It is love that gives rather than takes.

Jesus says: “Abide in My love.” The word “**abide**” means:

- to _____,
- to dwell,
- to continue,
- to stay _____.

II. Sacrificial Love Is _____ Through Obedience. (John 15:10–14)

“If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love...” — John 15:10

Human sacrifice may preserve _____ freedom.

Christ’s sacrifice provides _____ freedom.

Word Study: “Lay Down”

The phrase “**lay down**” means:

- to _____ surrender,
- to _____ yield up.

III. Sacrificial Love Produces _____ Friendship With Christ. (John 15:14–15)

“No longer do I call you servants... but I have called you friends...” — John 15:15

IV. Sacrificial Love Calls Believers to _____ . (John 15:16–17)

“I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit...” — John 15:16

- Christlike _____
- love for others
- _____
- gospel witness
- faithful _____

A meaningful Memorial Day service should remind believers:

- Life is _____.
- Freedom is _____.
- Eternity is _____.
- Christ is worthy of wholehearted _____.

And now He calls believers to:

- _____ in His love
- _____ His Word
- love _____
- and bear _____ fruit

Closing Applications

1. Remember Christ’s sacrifice _____.

Do not let the cross become familiar or routine.

2. Live _____.

A grateful believer is a worshipful believer.

3. Love _____.

Serve others not merely when it is convenient, but when costly.

4. Abide _____ in Christ.

You cannot produce spiritual fruit disconnected from Him.

5. Make your life count for _____.