

Scriptures for further study

Colossians 3:16 | Hebrews 10:25 | 1 John 4:11-12

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

- 1. Does it surprise you that love is something Jesus had to command? Why or why not? Who is our "one another"? How does our love for God and our love for one another go hand in hand?
- 2. Read Leviticus 19:18 and Matthew 22:34-40. What was new about the commandment to "love one another," which He gave in John 13?
- 3. What did Jesus mean when He said for the disciples to love one another in the same way He loved them? Look at John 13:1-17. What characterized the love Jesus had for His disciples in this scene? Similarly, what characterized the love Jesus showed us in going to the cross?
- 4. In verse 35, what are the ramifications of Jesus' statement in this verse? What's riding on our ability to demonstrate love? What message do believers give to the world when they show love for one another? What message do they give when they fail to show love for one another? How does our love for one another glorify God?
- 5. Why is it essential that we live in community with other Christians if we hope to cultivate Christ-like love for others?
- 6. How might faithfully participating in our group help us to be intentional in the way that we love other believers? What are some practical ways we could demonstrate love for one another in our group? How might our group express love for the larger body of Christ at our church?
- 7. How is loving one another in the church essential to our witness to those outside the church? What needs to change about the way you love others so that you might be a better witness for Christ? What does selfless love require of me this week?

LOVE ONE ANOTHER April 7, 2019