

Sermon Notes 4/13/25

Jesus, Always the Same **Jesús, siempre el mismo**

How can we follow the faithfulness of Jesus?
¿Cómo podemos seguir la fidelidad de Jesús?

1. Let's continue to love _____.

Sigamos amando a las _____.

Hebrews 13:1-3 (Hebreos 13:1-3)

John 13:34-35 (Juan 13:34-35)

2. Let's honor biblical _____.

Honremos el _____ bíblico.

Hebrews 13:4 (Hebreos 13:4)

Mark 10:6-9 (Marcos 10:6-9)

3. Let's be free from _____.

Seamos libres de la _____.

Hebrews 13:5 (Hebreos 13:5)

Luke 12:15 (Lucas 12:15)

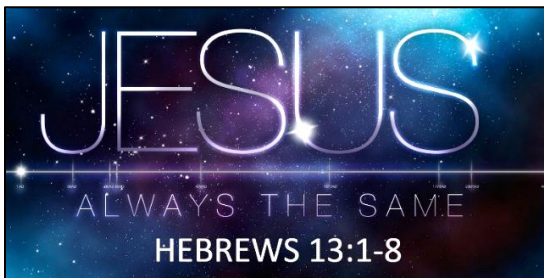
4. Let's remember our _____.

Recordemos a nuestros _____.

Hebrews 13:7 (Hebreos 13:7)

Matthew 28:18-20 (Mateo 28:18-20)

1 Corinthians 11:1 (1 Corintios 11:1)



Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 24: April 13-20

Hebrews 13:1-8

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Heb. 13:8). This could be the theme verse for the whole book. The author wrote this book to encourage Jewish Christians to remain faithful to Jesus. Jewish Christians in the first century were often disowned by their families and rejected by their Jewish communities and synagogues. As a result, some of them were tempted to leave Christianity and go back to Judaism without Jesus. From the first chapter, the writer has explained how Jesus is better than anything Judaism. He also explained how the Law of Moses is a shadow that points us to Jesus (Heb. 10:1). Jesus is the reality and fulfilment of the Law. He is the unchanging foundation upon which we must build our lives.

Read Hebrews 13:1-8

1. What are we commanded to keep doing in verse 1?

N. T. Wright observes,

If we get our picture of Jesus right, the huge issues in the other verses will begin to fall into place. First, the practical life of the Christian community must be ordered in such a way that generosity and love—the love, of course, that reflects and continues to embody God’s own self-giving love—will be its central features. The family (in other words, the Christian brothers and sisters) must continue to care for one another in practical ways. (Wright, 115-116)

2. What are we told to remember in verse 2?

Jim Girdwood and Peter Verkruijse comment,

These verses indicate two ways to practice this “brotherly love.” One way is to “not forget to entertain strangers.” The compound word φιλοξενία (philoxenia) can also be translated “hospitality” and its close relationship with the compound word translated “brotherly love” (φιλαδελφία, *philadelphia*) is seen in the word which they share (φιλία, *philia*, “friendship, love”). (Girdwood and Verkruijse, 424)

3. What reason did the author give for showing hospitality to strangers? (13:2)

Albert Mohler writes,

We should also show hospitality and love to strangers because, astoundingly, some of those strangers are angels. We often do not know with whom we're visiting. This is something we need to keep in mind, though it should not motivate our love. We simply do not know who we're really seeing when we notice a beggar on the side of the road, or a person in the hospital without a visitor, or someone in prison. The person we see might not be who we think we are seeing. In any case, we must show those in our paths hospitality for the glory of God. (Mohler, 220)

4. Who are we told to remember in verse 3?

5. What perspective should we have when we think about those who are suffering? (13:3)

6. Who should honor marriage? (13:4)

Mohler explains,

The exhortation that marriage should be “honored by all” is essential because it demonstrates that Christ’s people, where they are visible in the world, ought to be seen as a people who value marriage. Marriage isn’t an issue at the bottom of the priority list for Christians, nor is it merely a secondary or tertiary issue. Instead, marriage is high on the list. “Marriage is to be honored by all” is a particularly comprehensive statement. It doesn’t say, “Do not commit adultery.” Rather, it’s a positive statement. Christians should give public, visible honor and private, personal honor to marriage as the monogamous union of a man and a woman. (Mohler, 221-222)

7. What reason did the author give for us to abstain from sexual immorality? (13:4)

8. What are we to keep our lives free from in verse 5?

9. What promise from God can help us to be content? (13:5)

10. According to verse 6, what can Christians say with confidence?

11. Who are we told to remember in verse 7?

12. What should we do as we consider the faithful leaders who taught us God's word? (13:7)

Girdwood and Verkruyse observe,

The reference to Jesus should remind us that he is our ultimate model. What all Christians strive for is to "become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (Eph 4:13). This is why, even though Paul wanted the Corinthians to follow his example, he wrote them, "Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ" (1 Cor 11:1).

(Girdwood and Verkruyse, 428)

13. What are some safe and practical ways for us to show love to strangers in our culture today?

14. What are some ways that all Christians can honor God's plan for marriage?

15. What are some steps we can take to avoid sexual immorality?

16. Why do you think it is difficult for many people to be content?

17. What has helped you to be content in times when you didn't have a lot of money or possessions?

18. What leaders do you look up to and consider worth imitating? Why?

19. How can you show love to someone who has recently been in prison or mistreated?

20. How can you honor or appreciate a couple who has provided a good example of faithfulness in their marriage?

Sources cited:

Girdwood, Jim and Peter Verkruyse. *Hebrews*. College Press, 1997.

Hughes, R. Kent. *Hebrews: An Anchor for the Soul*. Crossway, 2015.

Mohler, R. Albert Jr. *Exalting Jesus in Hebrews*. Holman, 2017.

Wright, N.T. *Hebrews for Everyone*. WJK Press, 2023.