

44 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'"
A JOHN 13:34-35 (NIV)

Jesus washes His disciples feet Open Your Bible to John 13:1-17 to follow along.
1. WHAT DID JESUS KNOW?
Jesus knew that
<ul> <li>Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father"</li> <li>&gt; JOHN 13:1 (NIV)</li> </ul>
Jesus knew
55 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God" ~ JOHN 13:3 (NIV)
<ul> <li><sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life–only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."</li> </ul>

# 2. WHAT MUST WE KNOW?

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them."
JOHN 13:12 (NIV)

### If we don't know how Jesus loves us, then we are going to engage with the church in one of two ways:

We will be like

, or we will be like

We need to know that we are

of the world.

## 3. HOW WILL THE WORLD KNOW?

<sup>31</sup> When he was gone, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> 'My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. <sup>34</sup> 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'"

~ JOHN 13:31-35 (N/V)

Through the centuries, people have displayed many different symbols intended to show that they are Christians. They have worn marks in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, and even had special haircuts. But there is a much better sign – a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church till Jesus comes back...Love, and the unity it attests to is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark will the world know that Christians are in deed Christians and that Jesus was sent by the father.

- FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

# The way Jesus' followers *LOVE ONE ANOTHER* will point the world toward Him.

### COMMUNITY GROUP Questions:

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- 1 Is it usually easy for us within the church to love one another well? Why or why not?
- **2** Currently, how do you think the world views God in light of the way Christians love one another?
- **3** How do you think you would respond if your boss, or most respected relationship, put themself in a demeaning situation to serve you?
- **4** How did Jesus' understanding of who he was, affect his willingness to love His disciples?
- 5 Are you more naturally like Peter, who pridefully misunderstands God's plans, or Judas, who shamefully withdraws from God and those in the church? How can a better understanding of Jesus' love for you help combat those natural tendencies?
- **6** Read John 13:31-35 What are some tangible ways you could better love brothers and sisters within our church?





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