

KINGDOM OF LOVE

“NOT OF THIS WORLD” SERIES – PART 5 OF 6

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JOHN 13:3–5; 34 NLT

Jesus knew that the Father **had given him authority...and that he had come from God and would return to God.** ⁴ **So...he began to wash the disciples’ feet...Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other...**

WHAT YOU **DO** FLOWS FROM
WHO _____ **YOU ARE**

1 PETER 1:3-4; 2:9-10 NIV

...In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ **and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.....you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light...**

1 PETER 1:22–2:1 NIV

...love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ **For you have been born again...** ^{2:1} Therefore, rid yourselves of all **malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander...**

1 PETER 3:8–9 NIV

...all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble...because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

1 PETER 4:8–11 NIV

Above all, **love each other deeply**, because **love covers over a multitude of sins.** ⁹ **Offer hospitality** to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ Each of you should **use whatever gift you have received to serve** others...

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

1. WE SETTLE FOR AN ALLEGIANCE _____ THAN JESUS.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10–13 NLT

...be of one mind, united in thought and purpose... Some of you are saying, “I am a follower of **Paul.**” Others are saying, “I follow **Apollos,**” or “I follow **Peter...** **Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not!**

2. WE CRITICIZE, CATEGORIZE, AND _____ OTHER BELIEVERS WITH OUR JUDGMENTAL SPIRIT.

ROMANS 14:1–15:2 NIV

SEE ALSO 1 CORINTHIANS 8

Accept the one whose faith is weak, **without quarreling over disputable matters...Who are you to judge someone else’s servant? ...Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died...** Let us therefore **make every effort to do what leads to peace** and to mutual edification...**We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord.**

I WANT TO DO THIS BETTER:

1. I WANT TO GET **LESS CRITICAL AND MORE** _____.
2. I WANT TO KEEP **MY WORLD SMALLER AND HIS WORLD BIGGER.**
3. I WANT TO _____ **THE GRACE OF GOD.**
4. I WANT TO EMBRACE HUMILITY **WITH ENTHUSIASM.** 1 PET 5:5 JN 13:34–35
5. KNOW _____ **ACCORDING TO THE WORD.**

1 PETER 1:22–2:3 NIV

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart.²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, **through the living and enduring word of God.**²⁴ For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall,²⁵ but **the word of the Lord endures forever.**” And this is the word that was preached to you.

^{2:1} Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ² Like newborn babies, **crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up** in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

ON YOUR OWN:

SEE PEOPLE WITH GRACE – AND WITH HOPE!

READ THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS BELOW. DON'T 'UPROOT' ANYONE TOO QUICKLY!

Don't judge anyone too strictly or too soon. You cannot determine perfectly who belongs to Jesus and who does not – and **you have no idea who will ultimately become His.** When you exercise grace and hope, you continue to be an influencing voice in the lives of others, and you may be used by God to bring them to faith.

MATTHEW 13:24–30, 37–43 NIV

Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸ “ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹ “ ‘No,’ he answered, **‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them.**³⁰ **Let both grow together until the harvest.** At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”...

...“The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man.³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.

⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.