



Sermon - Love Changes How We Live

Main Point - The truth of Jesus' supreme worth produces in response a transformed life that pleases God.

John 14:12, 15

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.”

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

**Truth without transformation is worthless.
If there's no habit change, then there's no heart change.**

Hebrews 12:28-13:1

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. Let brotherly love continue.

John 13:35

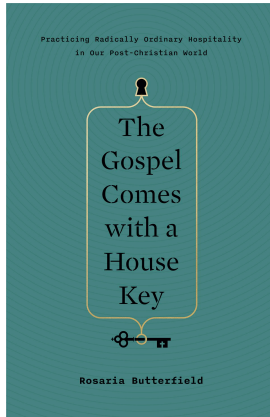
By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

#1 - Brotherly Love

Is this you? Are you marked by active & affectionate love for your brothers and sisters in the church?

Hebrews 13:2

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.



#2 - Hospitality

Is this you? Do you open your heart and home to new people? Do you have a welcoming spirit to those not yet in your inside circle that makes people feel invited, included, drawn into God's family and drawn towards Jesus' heart?

Hebrews 13:3

Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.

1 Corinthians 12:26

If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

#3 - Caring for the Hurting

Is this you? Do you care about those who are hurting / afflicted / mistreated among us? How about globally (Voice of the Martyrs, Open Doors, Prison Ministry, etc.)? Is your heart drawn to remember them and enter into their pain to minister to them?

Hebrews 13:4

Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

#4 - Honoring Marriage & Sex

Is this you? Married or single, do you hold high the priority of yours and others' marriages and vigorously protect the beauty and sacredness of sex?

Hebrews 13:5-6

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not fear;
what can man do to me?"

1 - Love drives our actions!

2 - God is telling us what to love!

#5 - Free from the Love of Money

Is this you? Are you free from the invading love of money through satisfying contentment in God's perfect love & provision for you?

Hebrews 13:7

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

#6 - Imitate your Spiritual Leaders

Is this you? Do you look for bible-saturated spiritual leaders around you to learn from and imitate?

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

True leaders will point you to Jesus, not themselves.

Hebrews 13:9-12

Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.

#7 - Reject False Teachings

Is this you? Are you diligently discerning & rejecting false teachings that could subtly sway you and instead holding fast to the unchanging truth of the true gospel?

Hebrews 13:13-14

Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.

#8 - Suffering for being Separate from this World

Is this you? Are you willing to bear the difficulty & hardship that comes from following Jesus & pursuing holiness because you refuse to fall in love with this world? Are you okay with being different & separated from worldly ways because Jesus is your better treasure?

Hebrews 13:15

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

#9 - Praise

Is this you? Are you a person of praise, who in all seasons has the goodness of Jesus on your lips?

Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

#10 - Good-Works Generosity

Is this you? Are you a person who does good to others with kind, sacrificial acts of generosity & justice?

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Lie of sin - authority is working against me / against my good

Truth of God - godly authority is working for me / for my good

#11 - Following Pastoral Leadership

Is this you? Do you trust & follow pastoral leadership eagerly, humbly, and joyfully?

Hebrews 13:18-19

Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner.

#12 - Intercessory Prayer

Is this you? Are you sincerely & urgently intervening in prayer for others' help and hearts?

Questions:

- Which of these is the Lord encouraging you in today?
- Which of these do you need to feel grief, receive grace, and start growing in?

- 1 - **Gospel Grief** (repentance over failure) - conviction & confession
- 2 - **Gospel Grace** (forgiveness for failure) - covering in the cross of Christ
- 3 - **Gospel Growth** (resolve to move past failure) - change in loving & living