

The New Commandment John 13:31–38

SERMON OUTLINE

Intro: Rosaria Butterfield. Former atheist & lesbian professor. Kindness & hospitality played a huge role in her conversion.

I. The Occasion of the New Commandment

- A. Jesus is preparing His disciples for His death/departure
- B. He calls the disciples to live in the world by faith

II. The Attitude of the New Commandment

- A. This command is not a suggestion or a request
- B. The command's authority is conditional upon its source
- C. Following Jesus changes how we treat others

III. The Object of the New Commandment

- A. Jesus calls us to love one another
- B. Do I love my fellow Christian?
- C. Do I love all brothers & sisters, even if they bother me?
- D. Living in violation of this command is not God's will

IV. The Example of the New Commandment

- A. v. 34 - "Just as I have loved you"
- B. Jesus loves me to the maximum degree (v. 1)
- C. Jesus loves me by knowing me as His own (14:21)
- D. Jesus loves me by laying down His life for me (vv. 36–38)

V. The Impact of the New Commandment

- A. All people will know Jesus' disciples
- B. People will be intrigued and drawn in
- C. We must be willing to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters in Christ

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Tell us about a great display of hospitality you've witnessed.
2. Think about your testimony. What was it that drew you to God's people?
3. What kind of person do you find difficult to love like Christ? Why? How can we begin to correct this?
4. What does church membership mean to you? Why does it matter?
5. When has someone shown self-sacrificial love for you?
6. How can our CG increase & display love for each other?

OTHER QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP

1. What does this text tell us about God?
2. What does this text tell us about man?
3. What should I put on or put off in my thinking?
4. What should I put on or put off in my doing?

PREVIOUS HOMEWORK

1. Make a practical commitment & plan (including accountability) to study God's Word.
2. Read Psalm 139:23–24 as prayer. Did God show you areas of repentance that you'd like to share? How can we help?

HOMEWORK

1. Ask God to show you how to more faithfully love people you don't naturally gravitate toward.
2. Sometime this week, text or call someone in your CG to pray with or encourage.

BIG IDEA

The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. But how will our friends & neighbors know the message we preach isn't empty chatter? How will they know our Savior lives?

According to Jesus, the way people will know we are disciples is by the love we have for each other.

2 Timothy 3:16	THINKING	DOING	
<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“PUT ON”</p>		Teaching	Training
		<p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“PUT OFF”</p>	