

Reflection Questions: John 13:34-35

For the message, "Our Mission Is Love" given by Pastor John Ferguson at Mercy Hill Church in Bryan/College Station, Texas, on Jun3 20, 2021

These reflection questions are designed to help you apply the message from the Scriptures by helping you think through application to your personal life, your church life, and your city's life. You can use these by yourself for reflection, or with your family or small group for discussion. To review the message, go to MercyHillBCS.org/resources/messages.

INTRODUCTION

Pray. Take a moment to pray asking God to guide you in reflecting upon the Scripture text.

Read the Scripture text: John 13:34-35

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. **35** By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

QUESTIONS

1. Let's think about how this text applies to our lives as individuals.

- In general, do you think Jesus' people are known for their love for one another? Explain.
- Jesus defined this new commandment of love for his disciples instead of letting them define what it might look like. Why do you think this is significant?
- How does this command show you your need for God's empowering grace? In other words, why is this simply not about will power, but about heart transformation?

2. Let's think about how this text applies to us as a community of Jesus' followers.

- How would we know if we were nailing this command at Mercy Hill? What would we need to change? What would we need to repent of?
- When we forget that Jesus wants us to be known by the Jesus-like way in which we love one another, what lies fill that vacuum? What wrong thoughts result when we forget this commandment? What does a church begin to look like instead?

3. Let's think about how this text applies to our city.

- How does Jesus definition of love (or his new way of love) challenge and maybe even critique our culture's definition of love?
- What kind of new life / future in Christ is this text calling our city to experience?