

“Love One Another”

John 13:31-35

Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. 32 If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

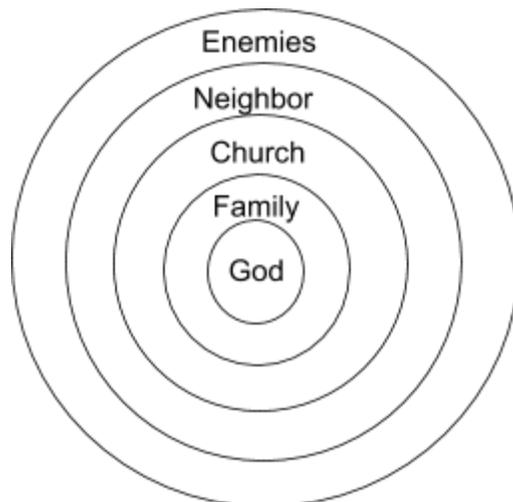
33 “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

- Today’s reading comes from a part of the Gospel of John known as the farewell discourse. (John 13-17)
- Jesus commands his disciples, and us, to love one another just as he loves us.
- Jesus says that our love for one another is how the world will know that we are his disciples.
- Love is a word that gets thrown around quite a bit in our culture, but we need to find out what it means in the Bible.
 - First, biblical love is a verb, not a noun. Love is not about what we feel, it is about what we do.
 - Second, biblical love is exercised on at least five different levels.



- We are talking about the church today.
 - Church love is love that helps us grow.
 - Church love ALWAYS includes accountability and discipline. (1 Cor. 5:12-13)
 - The key words are support and accountability. Church is not a cupcake shop, nor is it penitentiary.
 - This is real love and when people feel it, really feel it, they will be drawn to it.
- This kind of love can change lives; this kind of love can transform the world. This is what Jesus means when he commands us to love one another.