

## The Person & Work of God the Son

### Study 5

So far we've established by the testimony of Scripture that Jesus is God, that He came into this world and lived His life in the humblest of ways, and finally that He did all that for us! Now we turn our attention to Jesus' instructions to us, His followers, on how we are supposed to live our lives as His disciples.

#### 1) A new commandment

The night before Jesus was crucified He gave His disciples this commandment...

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." ~ John 13:34-35*

Why do you think Jesus made our love for one another the single primary identifying mark of His disciples?

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#### 2) God is love

In his 1<sup>st</sup> epistle, the apostle John reveals that "*God is love*" (1John 4:8). Therefore, since Jesus is God, *Jesus is love*. In 1Corinthians 13:4-8 the apostle Paul describes *love* as...

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."*

Have **one person** in the group read the scripture above, but instead of saying, "love" say "Jesus" for each description of love. For example, "Jesus is patient...etc,"

#### 3) Loving like Jesus

Now, have **each person** in your group read 1Corinthians 13:4-8, one at a time, but instead of saying, "love" insert that person's name " for each description of love! For example, "Sally is patient...etc,"

How did you feel when you read 1Corinthians 13:4-8 with **Jesus'** name in place of the word love? Does it ring true?

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#### 3) Loving like Jesus (continued)

How did you feel when you read 1Corinthians 13:4-8 with **your** name in place of the word love? Does it ring true?

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Do you find any areas of your life that don't match the definition of love described in 1Corinthians?

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Now, think back to Jesus' commandment in John 13:34-35...

*"...that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

How can loving others like Jesus loves you help bring people to Christ?

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What damage is done to the work and reputation of Jesus when we fail to love others like Jesus loves us?

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#### 4) Loved by Jesus

With the description of love from 1Corinthians in mind take a moment and record all of the ways that Jesus has loved you.

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#### 5) Loving others

What are some practical ways that you can love others in our young adult group; our church, and our community?

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