

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

PRECEPT

John 13:34-35

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."

PROMISE

Have you ever noticed that people can attend the same church, sing the same songs, listen to the same sermon, and still struggle to love one another truly? The reality is that a church can be busy, active, and full of ministry, yet someone can still walk through its doors feeling unseen, unnoticed, and alone. Why? Because programs and preaching, while essential, do not make a church healthy—love does. That's why Jesus didn't begin with programs; He began with people. He commanded His followers to love one another, for by that love they will see Jesus. When we truly love one another, people don't just see a friendly church—they see Jesus. And when they see Jesus reflected in His people, hearts are changed, lives are transformed, and the church becomes exactly what He intended it to be.

Love is not optional. It is not something we do only when we feel like it or when people are easy to love. It is not something we do only when it is convenient. Jesus commands His disciples to love one another because love is the foundation of the Christian community.

Love has a model. This is what makes Christian love different. Jesus does not simply say, "Love one another the way the world loves." He says, "Love one another as I have loved you." That means Jesus is both the command-giver and the example. When Jesus says, "Love one another," He is not talking about shallow, convenient love or about love that only loves when it is loved back. He is talking about Christlike love. A love that serves, forgives, stays, gives, and sacrifices.

Love must be practiced. Love is not just something we believe. Love is something we practice, an action in our relationships, meaning love shows up in simple ways. When we greet someone warmly, pray for someone who is struggling, forgive someone who offended us, or serve someone who cannot repay us. This is the kind of love Jesus commands. A healthy church is not built by people who only attend together. A healthy church is built by people who love one another.

PRACTICE

1. **Love.** Who has demonstrated Christlike love to you, and what impact did it have?
2. **One Another.** What is one specific way you can show Christlike love to someone this week? How can we pray you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Family

- Pray for loving, harmonious and Christ-centred families.

II. Trust

- When we face uncertainty, may we be reminded of His love and faithfulness.

III. Obedience

- Pray that even in our sufferings, we will continue to obey God wholeheartedly.

IV. Nation

- Pray for protection, strength to our nation.

V. Prayer

- Let us all continue to seek God's presence in our prayer.

VI. Direction

- Seek the Lord for guidance, and divine wisdom as we set our goals this year.

VII. Church

- May each of us desire to seek God and extend His love to our family and communities.