

Sermon Notes 12.14.2025 – Imitating the Jesus We Know

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

The Meaning Turned Around – Everyone will know that we are sincere/real, obedient, and devoted to Jesus when they see that we love one another like Jesus loved us. We are Transformed by Knowing Jesus.

Jesus Commanded us to love one another as he had loved us.

- We ought to think and pray about this... A Lot.
- How does Jesus love us & How can I imitate that love sincerely to others
- All the other commands Jesus gave, had already been given under the old covenant.

We Cannot Imitate His Transcendent / Immanent Qualities

We Imitate the Jesus Came Who Came to Us & Continues to Come to Us – "I will come to you."

The Two Essentials – Its Not Either/ Or – It's Both & The Holy Spirit Bears Witness to Our Spirit

1 John 3:23 & 24 This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

24 The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

We Can't Imitate the Jesus We Don't Know – "We love, because He first loved us." **1 John 4:19**

We Can Know Jesus – We Should Know Jesus – Jesus Invites Us to Know Him – That is Who We Imitate

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him..." **Revelation 3:20**

1 John 2:3-6 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; 5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: 6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

Jesus Taught Us How to Live – Short List of His Commands 74 / Long List 300+

What was revealed by the person of Christ was given to refocus us on God who loves us and cause us to love God and love one another.

Mark 12:29-31 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; 30 AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.' 31 "The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Matthew 22:40 "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

1 John 4:20-21 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

Matthew 7:12 "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

Becoming a Witness for Jesus in Your Relationships

Your witness – "By this shall all men know..." There is a Strong Potential in Our thoughts, then Words, then Deeds to impact anybody whose path crosses ours.

The Shepherds Were impacted by Crossing Paths with Jesus – Angels Showed Up

The Holy Spirit Bears Witness: The Holy Spirit Will Show Up

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Galatians 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

There are Many Relationships that God Gives Us – All are a Gracious Gift from God

A servant, a friend, a child (sons and daughters), a brother or sister, a father or mother, teacher or guide, leader or follower, student, worker, companion & Quite frankly you might be a stranger (Phillip & the Ethiopian Eunuch).

You are a Disciple of Jesus – Asking The Helper, The Counselor, The Holy Spirit to Fill You, Guide You, Use you to Do the Will of God is a Daily, "Moment-by-Moment" Discipline for Disciples.

Jesus Came to Us and Called Us to Go to Them as "Dear" Imitators of Jesus