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Advance Communication

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Sermon: How to Show Love and Respect to Others - John 13-34

Good morning, brothers and sisters. Today, we will reflect on a passage from John 13-34 that speaks about showing love and respect to others.

Introduction

Jesus' simple command requires greater strength than any of us naturally possess - it requires the Holy Spirit

The Bible commands us to have love for one another. Sounds great, but is it possible? I think whoever said, "I love mankind; it's people I can't stand," was pretty well on the money.

Simply said, people irritate me. I concur with the man who remarked, "Oh, how that will be glory, to live above with those we love." Living below with people we know is something else entirely.

Even church members might be challenging to love. In some hymnals, there is a chorus that begins, "I'm so glad you're a part of the family of God," and we follow it with, "I'm surprised you're a part of the family of God."

In this chapter, Jesus gives us a powerful example of love and respect when he washes his disciples' feet. Foot washing was a common practice in ancient times, but it was usually done by servants, not by masters. By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus demonstrated humility and love.

So, how can we follow Jesus' example and show love and respect to others? Here are three key points to consider:

Sometimes it's hard enough to love our own family. One guy told his wife that if she had really loved him she would have married someone else.

We need to love one another. Jesus commands his disciples to love one another in verse 13-34, saying, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." Love is the foundation of all good relationships. When we love others, we treat them with kindness and respect, and we build strong and meaningful connections.

It's challenging to love someone, in fact. But the Bible does demand this. Since the beginning, you have heard that we should love one another (1 John 3:11). We provide time to the things we value most. These options—spending time with loved ones, going to work, praying, helping the needy, defending rights, and denouncing wrongs—are all respectable in the eyes of many of us. However, as the Bible reminds us, "And if I give all of my possessions to feed the poor, and if I give my body as a sacrifice for sin, and do not have love, I gain nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:3).

Jesus made it a point to define some of our priorities for us, even if we are free to do so: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. The greatest and most significant commandment is this one. Similar is the second: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matt. 22:37-39). Therefore, love is not an ambiguous concept in the Bible. Jesus

emphasized love more than any other Christian virtue. The fine filter of love must first be applied to every idea, action, and deed of good will in order for it to have any meaning at all.

We need to be willing to serve others. In verse 13:14, Jesus says, "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet." This doesn't mean that we need to literally wash people's feet, but it does mean that we need to be willing to serve others, even if it means putting our own needs or desires aside. We can serve others by volunteering our time, sharing our resources, or simply being a listening ear.

We need to be humble. Jesus' act of foot washing was a powerful example of humility. In verse 13- 15, he says, "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you." When we show humility, we acknowledge that we are not better than anyone else, and we create an environment of respect and kindness.

In conclusion, showing love and respect to others requires us to be willing to serve, to be humble, and to love one another. Let us follow Jesus' example and strive to be servants who humbly love and respect all those around us. May God bless us as we seek to live out this important commandment. Amen

