

Final Instructions from Christ *John 13-16*

Love - the measure of our relationship with Christ

John 13-16

Final Words - at death or before major change or even before turning over a job to another - the most important things to remember! For Jesus they show us His concern for His disciples then and now. What were the themes of His final discourse - Love, Peace, Joy - Same as the first three fruits of the Spirit. His message was that the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit would indeed seal these matters in the hearts of His disciples (1) and (2)

Actual Words - Verses of Love

John 13:1 Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end.

34-35 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should: love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

John 14:15 "If you love me, obey my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.

21 Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them."

23-24 Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. ²⁴ Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me.

28 Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, who is greater than I am

John 15:9-10 "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

12-13 This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. ¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

17 This is my command: Love each other.

John 16:26-27 Then you will ask in my name. I'm not saying I will ask the Father on your behalf, ²⁷ for the Father himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from God.

I. Love demonstrated **John 13 1-18**

A. In servanthood

Why - no servants and no humility

How - He knew His hour had come

Who He was - From Father and returning

B. In sacrifice

Love costs - ultimate love costs all

II. Love demanded **John 13:33-35**

A. Old commandment - Love one another - Leviticus 19:18

Greatest commandment - **Matthew 22:37**

Extended even to enemies - **Matthew 5:43-44**

B. New standard - As I have loved you

Love others as Christ loves us -in humility

III. Love defined **John 14:23-24**

A. In the keeping of Christ's word

Love molds our lives and motivates us to seek Him

B. In intimate fellowship with Christ and the Father

Christ will live in us through His word

IV. Love determined **John 15:9-17**

A. Loved with a defined action

B. Loved by a divine standard

C. Loved in a defined relationship

D. Loved with a delightful product

V. Love definite **John 16:26-28**

A. Clear Statement **The Father Himself loves you**

B. Clear Standard **Because you believe**

Conclusions

Love is a choice (a costly choice) not a feeling

Love not seen is not love at all

Love demonstrated changed the World

Key Questions we must ask ourselves

Do I believe God really loves me?

Do I understand and acknowledge Christ's love?

Do I love Him?

Do I show my love by seeking Him in His Word?

Do I demonstrate my love by keeping His Commandments?

Do I love my brothers and sisters in Christ? How?

Final Instructions - Remember the great love of Christ for you

- Love God enough to seek His Word and live by it

- Love God enough to love one another as He loves us