

Text: **John 13**

Title: **“Love one another as I have loved you”. John 13:34**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Many lessons have been learned about Love
  - a) God’s love for Israel
  - b) The Lord Jesus’ love for His Disciples
  - c) Love was so natural
2. A special Commandment was given by the Lord Jesus
  - a) He commanded His disciples to love one another
  - b) Why was it necessary to speak of love as a commandment?

## **THE SAD REALITY**

1. Mankind has been affected adversely:
  - a) By Sin
  - b) By Self
  - c) By Satan
  - d) By the World

## 2. The effects of Sin upon Mankind

- a) Love is not a natural thing
- b) The natural tendency:
  - i) To be selfish and self-centred
  - ii) To take things for granted
  - iii) To make demands of others
  - iv) To be unappreciative
  - v) To find fault with others
  - vi) To despise people

## **THE STRUGGLES OF THE DISCIPLES**

1. They were individualistic
2. They had difficulties with each other
3. They vied for leadership roles
4. They thought of their own interests
5. They had their own hidden agenda

## **UNDERSTANDING THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

1. A Commandment
  - a) It has to be understood
  - b) It has to be obeyed

## 2. The Commandment to Love one another

- a) Personal sins must be dealt with
- b) Problems would have to be resolved
- c) Practical solutions have to be found
- d) The Lord's commandment must be obeyed
- e) But how may this commandment be fulfilled?

## FULFILLING THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER

### 1. Pondering the Commandment

*<sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.*

*<sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

*John 13:34-35*

- a) It is stated as a Commandment
- b) As the Lord Jesus has loved us, we must love one another
- c) We prove ourselves as disciples if this love is practised

### 2. Pondering this Commandment further

*"If you love Me, keep My commandments". John 14:15*

- a) We need to check if we truly love the Lord Jesus
- b) If this love is true, then we keep His commandments

### **3. Pondering this Commandment yet further**

<sup>9</sup> *“As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.*

<sup>10</sup> *If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.*

*John 15:9-10*

- a) We are to abide in the love of the Lord Jesus
- b) If we keep His commandments, we will abide in His love
- c) The example of the Lord Jesus abiding in God’s love is to be an important focus

### **4. The Problem of not keeping this Commandment**

- a) We may not truly love the Lord Jesus
- b) We may not be keeping His commandments
- c) We may not be truly abiding in His love

### **CONCLUSION**

1. Let us confront our problem of a lack of love
2. Let us confess our sins
3. Let us seek Cleansing
4. May we be filled with a genuine love for the Lord Jesus!