

Love One Another



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

Love One Another

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

Have you ever noticed that people who belong to the same family look like one another? Maybe they have the same hair color or the same smile or the same nose. Of course, they don't look exactly alike. Each one is unique. Yet, there's a family resemblance. They look alike because of what they share in common.

The Bible says that Christians look alike, too. When you trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins, you become part of God's family. And, as part of God's family, you begin to bear the family resemblance. You start to *look* like a Christian. What do Christians look like? They look like Jesus. This doesn't mean they grow beards and wear long robes. No, we look like Jesus when we begin to speak and act like Jesus.

In these verses, Jesus commands us to love one another *just as he has loved us*. How has Jesus loved you?

1. His love for you is **costly**. It cost him his life. Jesus died in your place so that you might live.
2. His love for you **undeserved**. You didn't have to earn his love. You don't deserve it. You can't pay him back.
3. His love for you is **forever**. Even when you sin, Jesus continues to love you and do good to you.

Loving one another like Jesus loved us will cost you something. It means giving yourself to serve others, giving your time, your possession, or giving up your rights. It means doing good to those who may not deserve it, or who can't pay you back. It means continuing to do good to them, even when you don't feel like it.

Only Jesus can help us to love one another in this way. And when we do, we will look like Jesus and everyone will *know* that we belong to Jesus. This pleases God and brings him much glory!