

Blessing is Channel of Love
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God speaks to us about love through the Bible. We can say that the Bible is the book of love. In John, the word “love” is written more than 50 times.

Why does God speak to us about love? We think that it is because love is not easy but difficult. It is hard because you have to love your enemies, the ones who treat us bad, the ones who hate us, and love the ones who we hate too.

However, in John 13:34 it says, **“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”**

In the Old Testament, it says to love your neighbors, and in the New Testament it speaks of not just your neighbors but your community and people of other countries too. God gave us a new commandment. When I was reflecting on John 13, I saw that in verse one, the phrase “he loved them to the end” caught my eye.

We can all love pretty easily, but love till the end is something different and probably very hard, isn't it? Starting our path to faith is pretty easy, but keeping that faith to the end is hard. We say we will obey God till the end but obeying until the end is hard. Even with all that said, Jesus loves until the end and he kept his promise to God about obeying him until the end.

We fall in love very quickly and we also are very quick to forget our love for others too. God told us that Jesus will love us till the end, can we do the same with others? God told us we have to love others, if we have the same mindset can we love others?

This world is getting very comfortable, and it is becoming more difficult to love others, let alone till the end. If life becomes more comfortable, we should be able to share and love one another, right? Right now, the world is becoming more and more individualistic and self-centered. This is the case now where everyone is out for themselves and also just love their own family members.

Verse 35 says this: **“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”**

Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ means that we have to follow his words to become his disciples. We can pray to God every day we want to live like His disciples, but it is going to be difficult to live as his disciples to the end. It is because our lives change every day and is never the same. One day we will walk on a flat road, other days we will be going uphill and sometimes mountains will appear on our path. Isn't that our lives now?

Just like our Scripture today, the new command from God, just as I loved you, you should love others. Is this something that we can live by? I believe that we can find the answer in the book of Ruth.

Naomi had two daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpha. Naomi lost her loving husband and her two sons and while in suffering their loss told both of the daughters to leave and go back home to their families. Orpha, not seeing the vision, left and went to be with her family but Ruth stayed with Naomi and went to Bethlehem and met Boaz and married him.

I saw the answer of love through Ruth meeting Boaz. It was a blessing. When Boaz met anyone, he always wished God's blessing to them. Even the ones who were not in the same status as him, he wanted to bless them, the weak the same. When Naomi heard the blessings that Boaz wanted for others through Ruth, she also blessed him. What are blessings? Is it something we give others when we love them? Should that be enough? Should it be this way?

The love that God wants for us is when we look at those we think that are lower than us, the weak, or the poor. If we can bless these people, then we can start to love others. Living as a Christian, we get hurt a lot but the hurt also comes from our own family or church. Some can't even love their own children, let alone live as a Christian. How are we going to love the other members of our own church?

We are all loved and children of God. It is not how much or little we have, how high or low in our lives. God loves us all. God's love is for us to think about others before us and through that God will bless us with all his abundant love.

We will be the Lord's disciples who love each other when we make those whom God allows to meet today treating them as precious and blessed brothers and sisters. In John 13:34 it says **A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another**