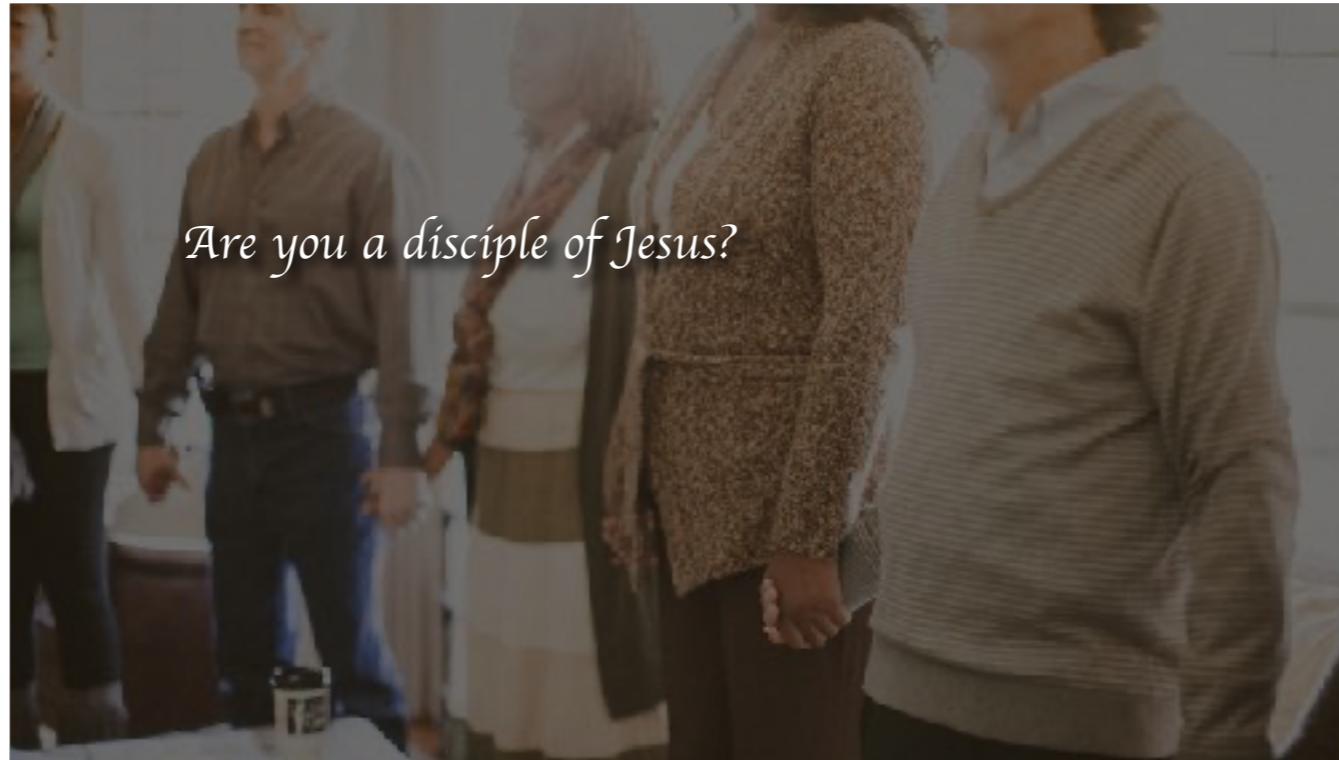
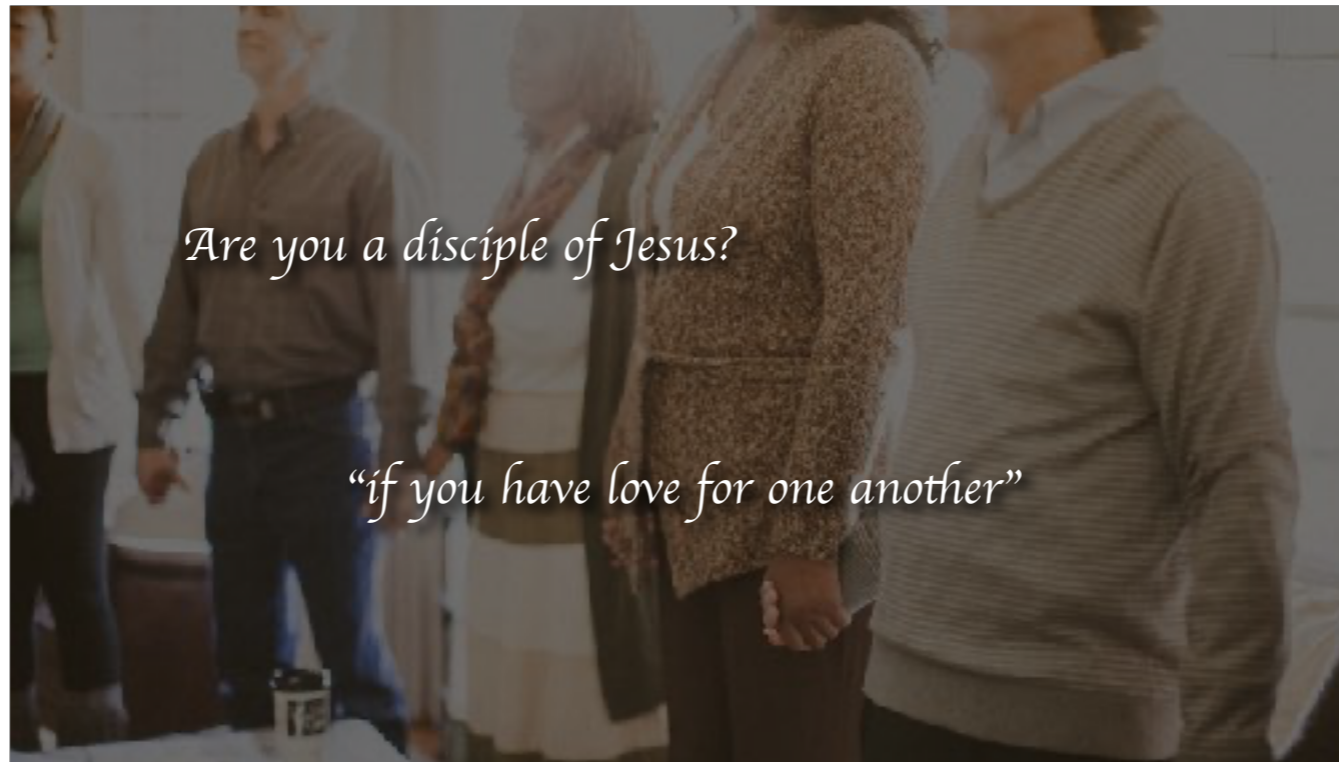




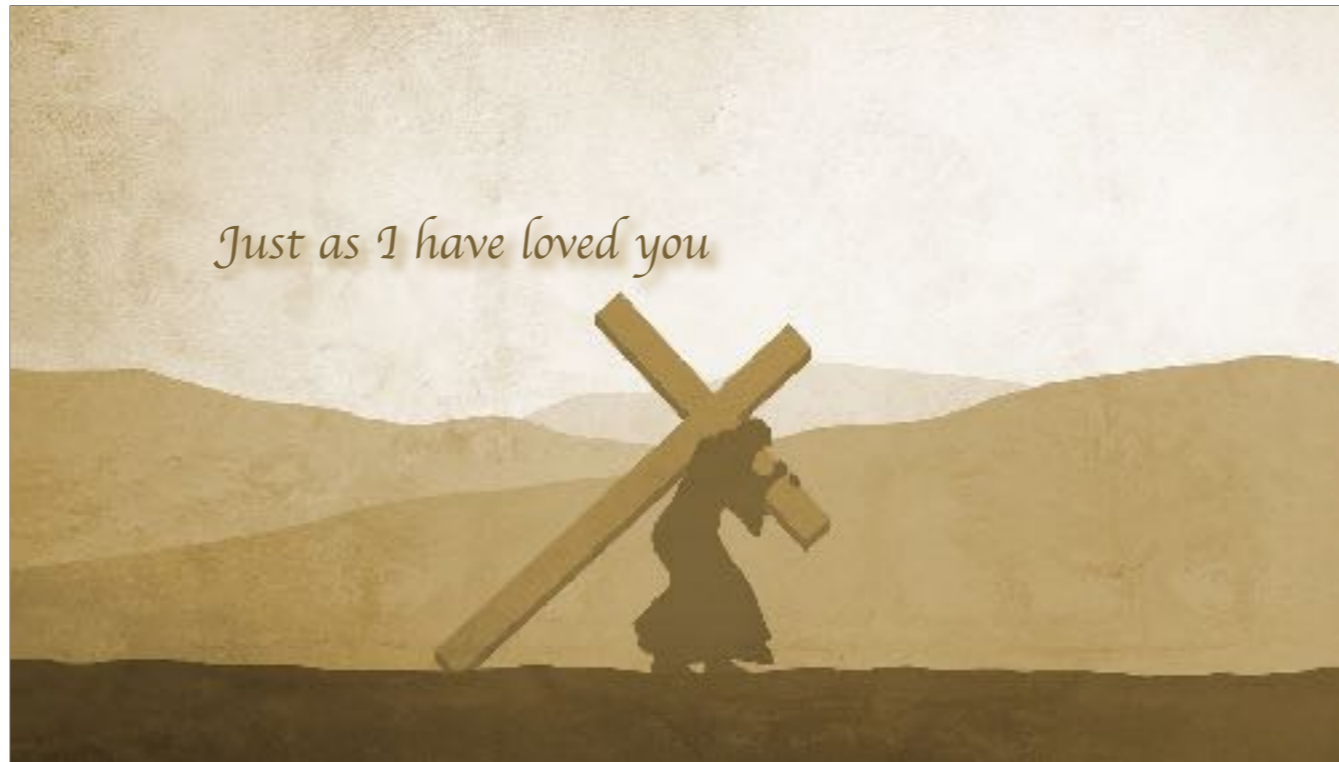
- Text: John 13:34-35
- Reading: Romans 8:31-38



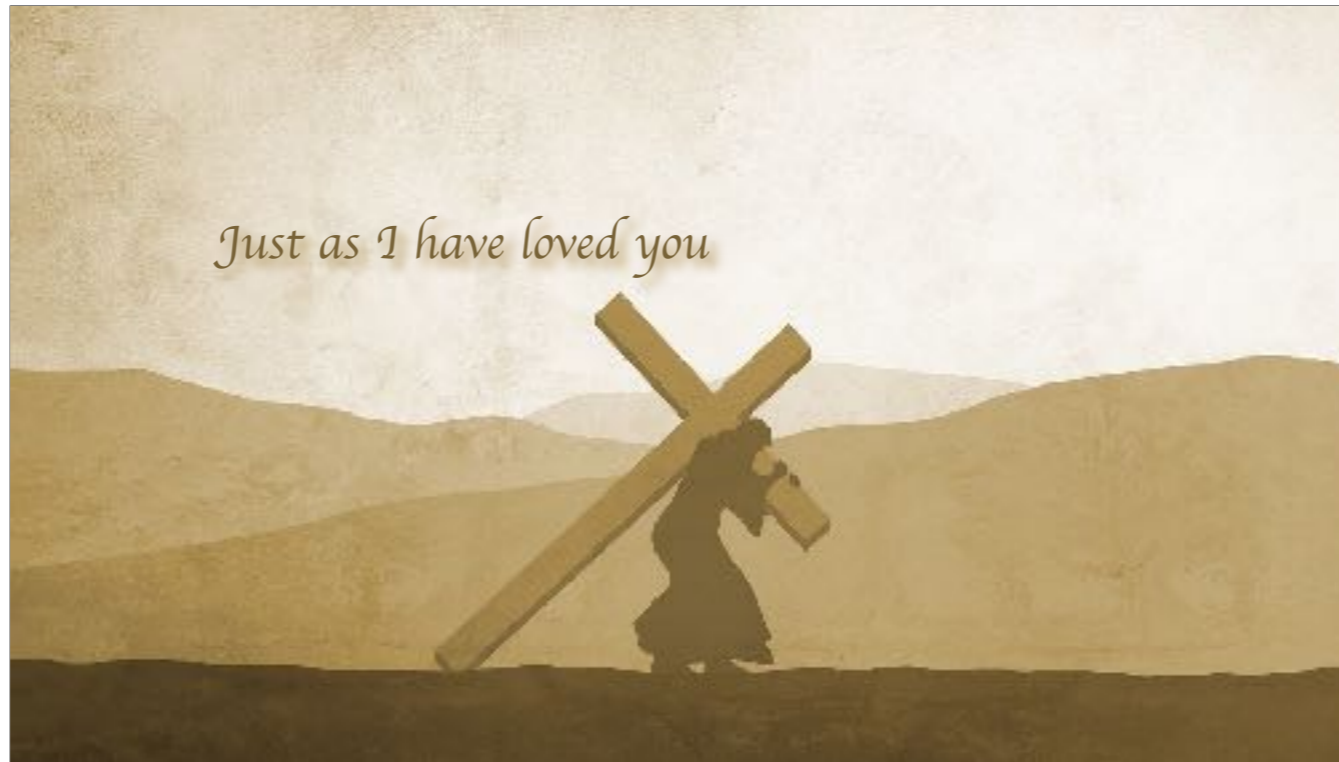
- How do your family and friends know that you are a disciple of Jesus?
  - They know/see you go to church frequently?
  - Mention God, Jesus, Spirit, Bible in conversation?
  - Moral behavior?
- What if they are surprised?
- John 13:34-35 (ESV) 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”



- Jesus
  - Love for one another.
    - This must be a love than is different than what is seen in the world, in most congregations, in most situations

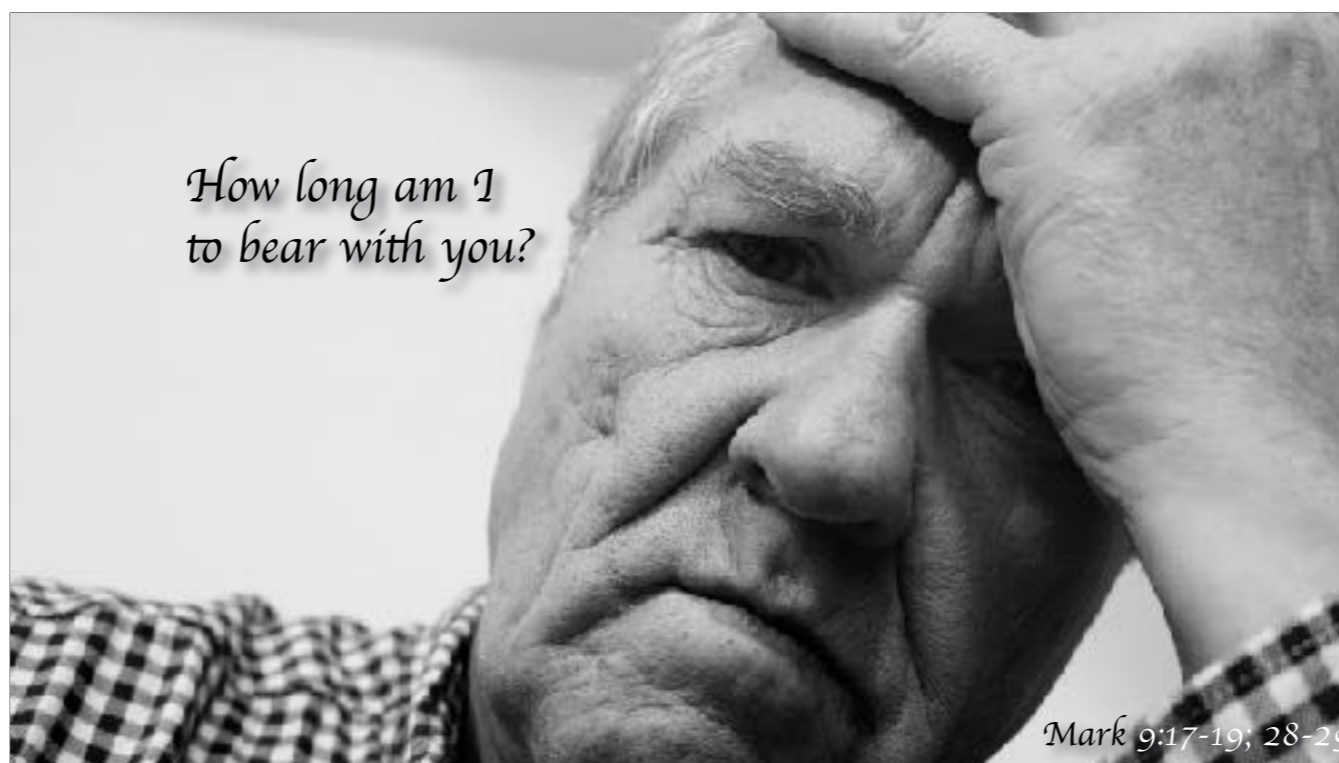


- How do we know how to love one another?
- Jesus uses himself as the standard
  - John 15:13: Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.
    - Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV) 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

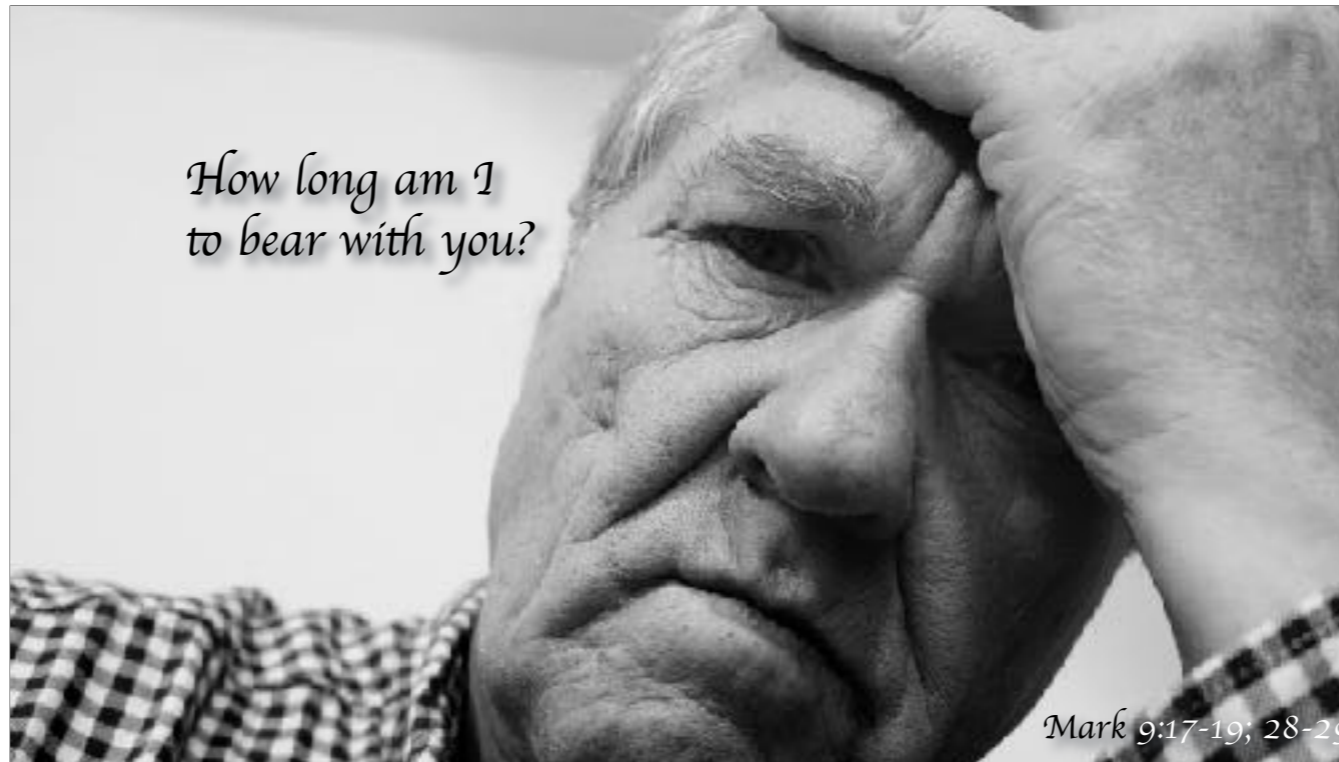


- Also need to look at Jesus relationship with the disciples through their time together on earth
  - Certainly, this is what the disciples would have first considered when they heard Jesus say this
    - (especially since He had not yet died for them ... and they struggled with the idea that He would)
- So what would they think of?

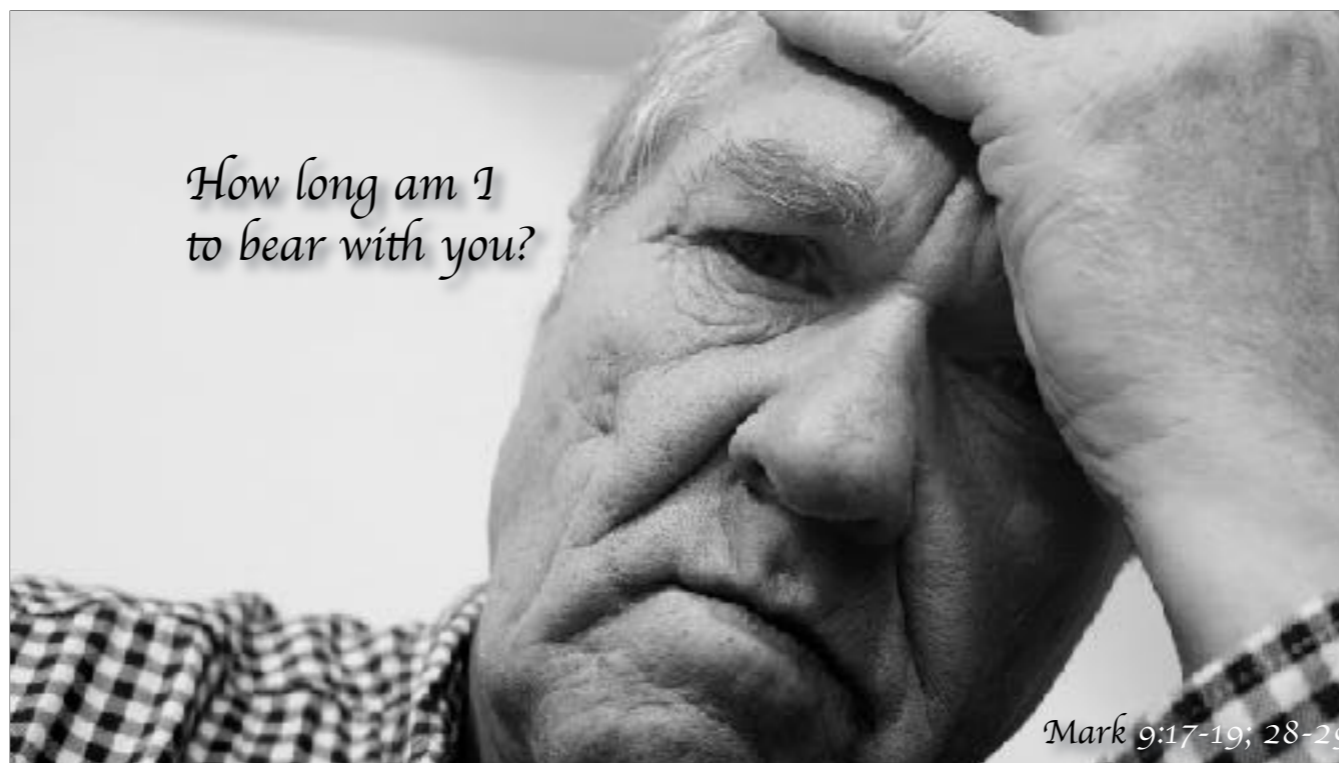




- Mark 9:17-19 (ESV) 17 And someone from the crowd answered him,
  - “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. 18 And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid.
  - So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and **they were not able.**”
  - 19 And he answered them, “O **faithless** generation, how long am I to be with you? **How long am I to bear with you?** Bring him to me.”

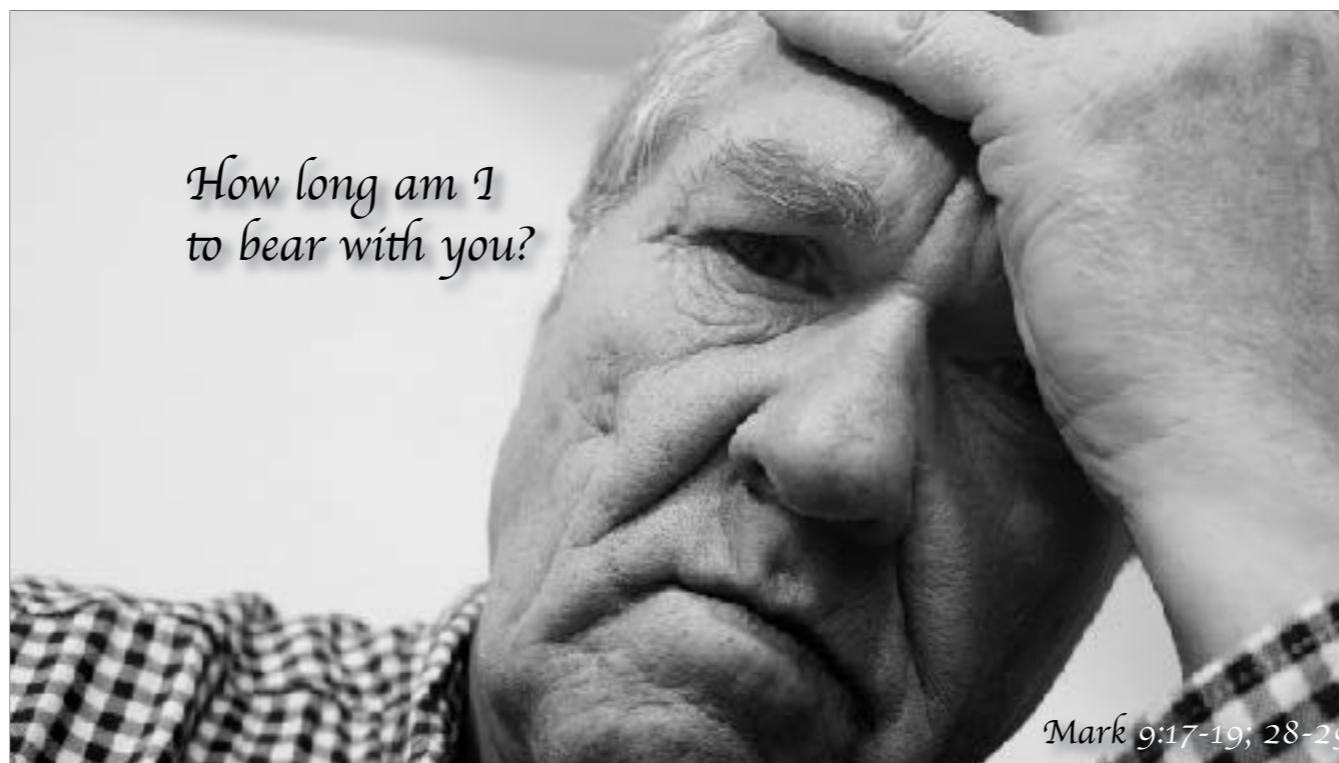


- Disciples failed to cast out spirit.
- Father turns to Jesus for help:
- Jesus expresses frustration? resigned tolerance? annoyance? resentment? disgruntled?
  - Even for Jesus, spending time teaching, helping, being with the disciples was not always a picnic.
  - For all that they had heard from him, and seen him do they still didn't get it.



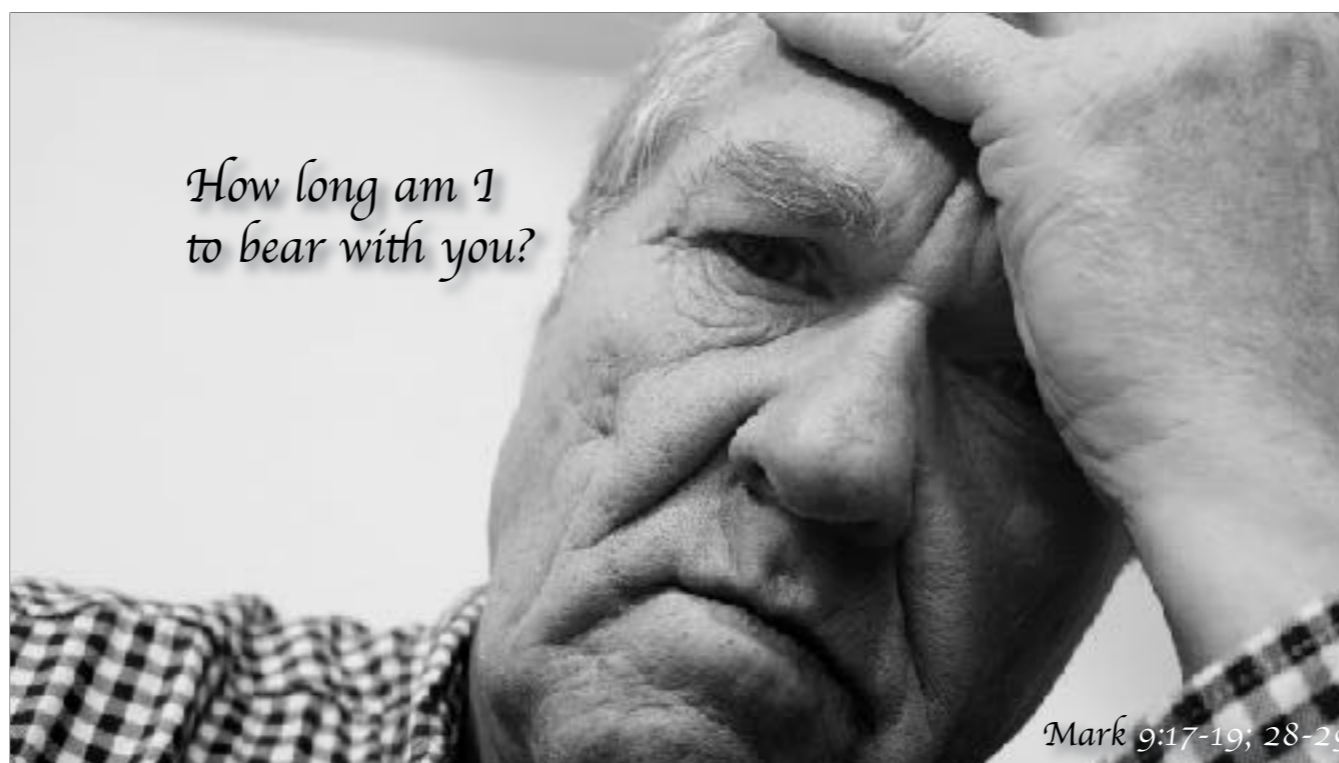
- Jesus' time with the disciples was not always easy for Jesus ... at times frustrating to him
  - Peter rebuked Jesus after confessing Jesus is the Christ
  - Didn't allow the children to come to him.
  - Wanted to strike down a city that refused to accept him.





- Mark 9:28-29 (ESV) 28

- And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- 29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."



- Now there's no rebuke ... just an explanation.
  - Source of frustration: all the disciples needed to do was pray ... (maybe that's oversimplified?)
  - He'd taught them to pray, apparently they didn't.
  - He only told them what they should have done.
- Is this an expression of his love for them?
  - It's not easy, yet he helped them



- Mark 9:33-37 (ESV)
  - 33 And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them,
    - “What were you discussing on the way?”
  - 34 But they kept silent,
    - for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.
      - Is their silence frustrating to Jesus?
      - Did they remain silent because they knew they were wrong?



- 35 And he sat down and called the twelve. (Patience? Seriousness?)
  - And he said to them,
    - “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”
  - 36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,
  - 37 “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”



- 37 “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”
  - Receive (welcome): ACCEPT — deliberate, open, immediate
  - dechomai (δέχομαι, 1209) signifies “to accept,” by a deliberate and ready reception of what is offered (cf. No. 4), e.g., 1 Thess. 2:13, rv, “accepted”; 2 Cor. 8:17; 11:4. See receive, take.
    - W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White Jr., Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, 1996, 2, 7.



- How is Jesus showing his love to the disciples?
  - While they are still in the grip of seeking greatness, like the world
  - He shows them what greatness is about ... receiving a child
    - World dismisses children
    - Jesus receives them. So should I.
  - This is a great challenge: brothers and sisters that are
    - immature (and often sin)
    - weak
    - hurting





- Mark 10:35-45

- And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36 And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."



- 38 Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?”  
39 And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized,  
40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”



- 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John.
  - translated: “much displeased”; “greatly displeased”; “angry”
  - Are they still fighting over who is the greatest, apparently? At least struggling.
    - Was Jesus frustrated again by the disciples?
  - What could they have done instead of being indignant?



- 42 And Jesus called them to him and said to them,
  - “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.
- 43 But it shall not be so among you.
  - But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,
  - 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.
  - 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,
    - and to give his life as a ransom for many.”





- How is Jesus showing his love to the disciples?
  - Greatness again!
  - Instead of berating, blowing up, Jesus shows them contrast:
    - You can be like the world (and we know how that's turned out)
    - Or you can be like Jesus: serve and give
- Love.

*How do we love one another  
just as Jesus loves us?*

How?





- Bear with One Another (9:19)
  - Endure patiently, put up with
- Jesus shows us that we should
  - bear with one another when they are failing, when they are faithless
    - when we are frustrated by their struggles
    - when we know they are not being spiritually minded or motivated



- Rebuke may be needed, they may need to hear the truth
  - Ephesians 4:15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,
    - Don't use as an excuse to be mean, unduly cruel, or express your opinions as "truth"



- Return to instruction with gentleness as soon as possible
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:14 (ESV) 14 And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.
- When we love each other, we bear with one another's weaknesses, failures, lack of faith, etc. etc.
  - Just like Jesus did for them and does for me.

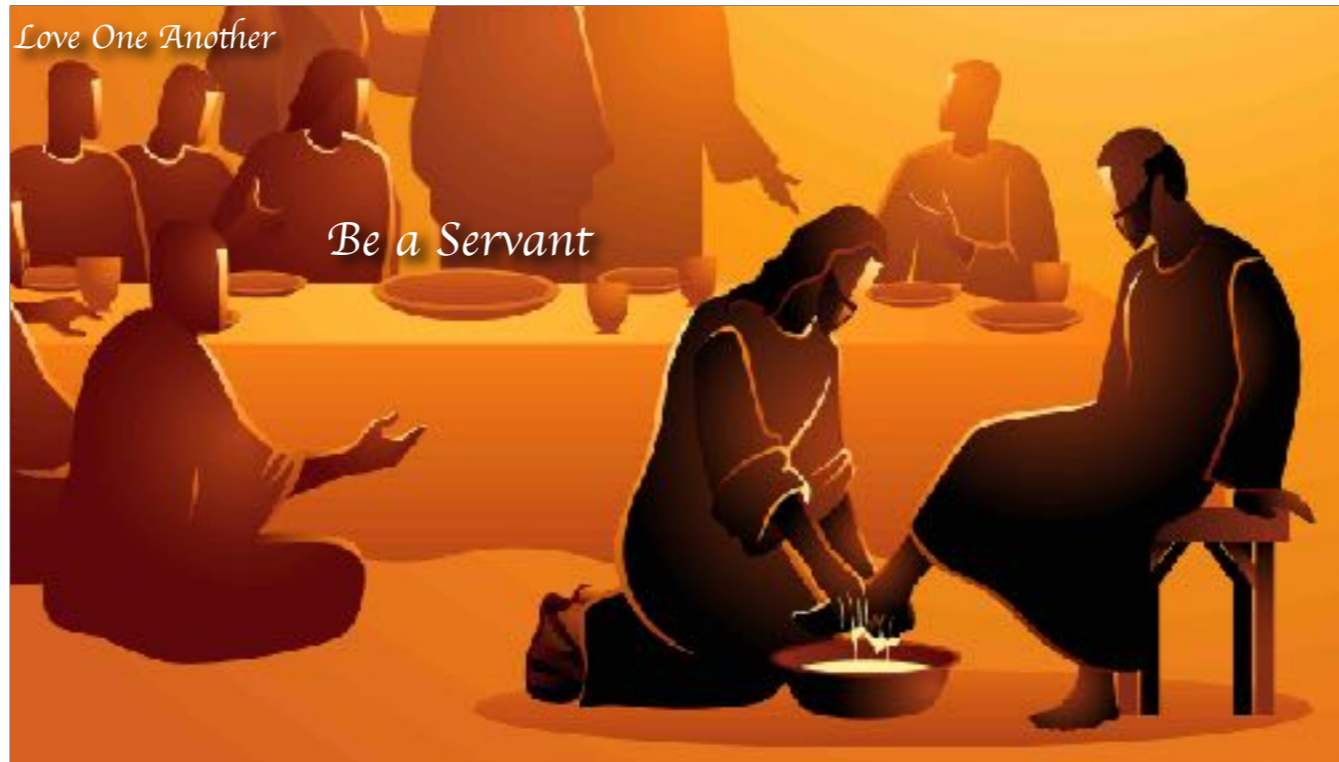


- Receive (9:37)
  - A child
    - inspires compassion, and hope, and joy
  - Children are not adults
    - They make mistakes ... sometimes silly ones, unfortunate ones
    - They are learning and curious
    - They don't think with maturity
    - We must not expect them to think, act, or be adults



- Receive has the idea of welcoming and accepting
  - Mark 9:36 And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,
  - What happens when we hold a child in our arms:
    - provides a sense of security, comfort, acceptance, approval
    - gives peace and strength
  - Establishes an atmosphere
    - we can help the child to grow to maturity

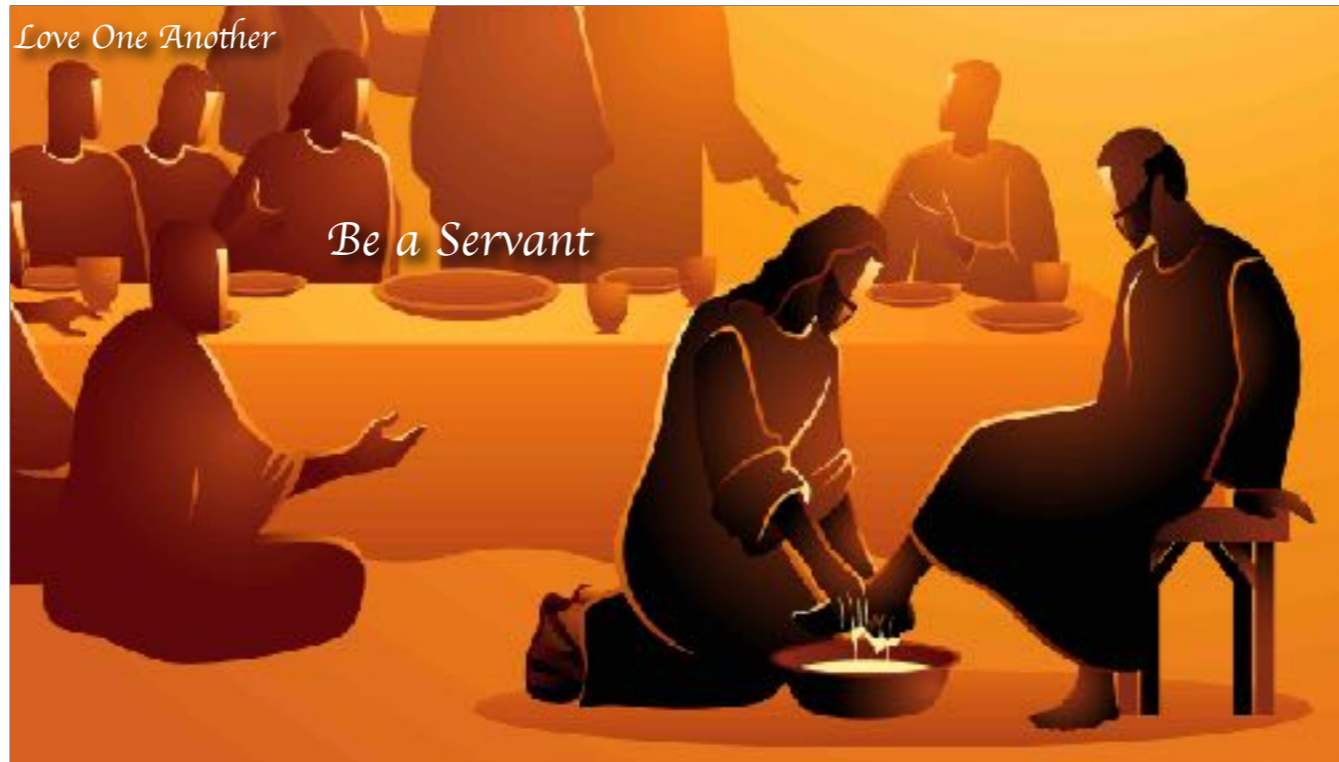




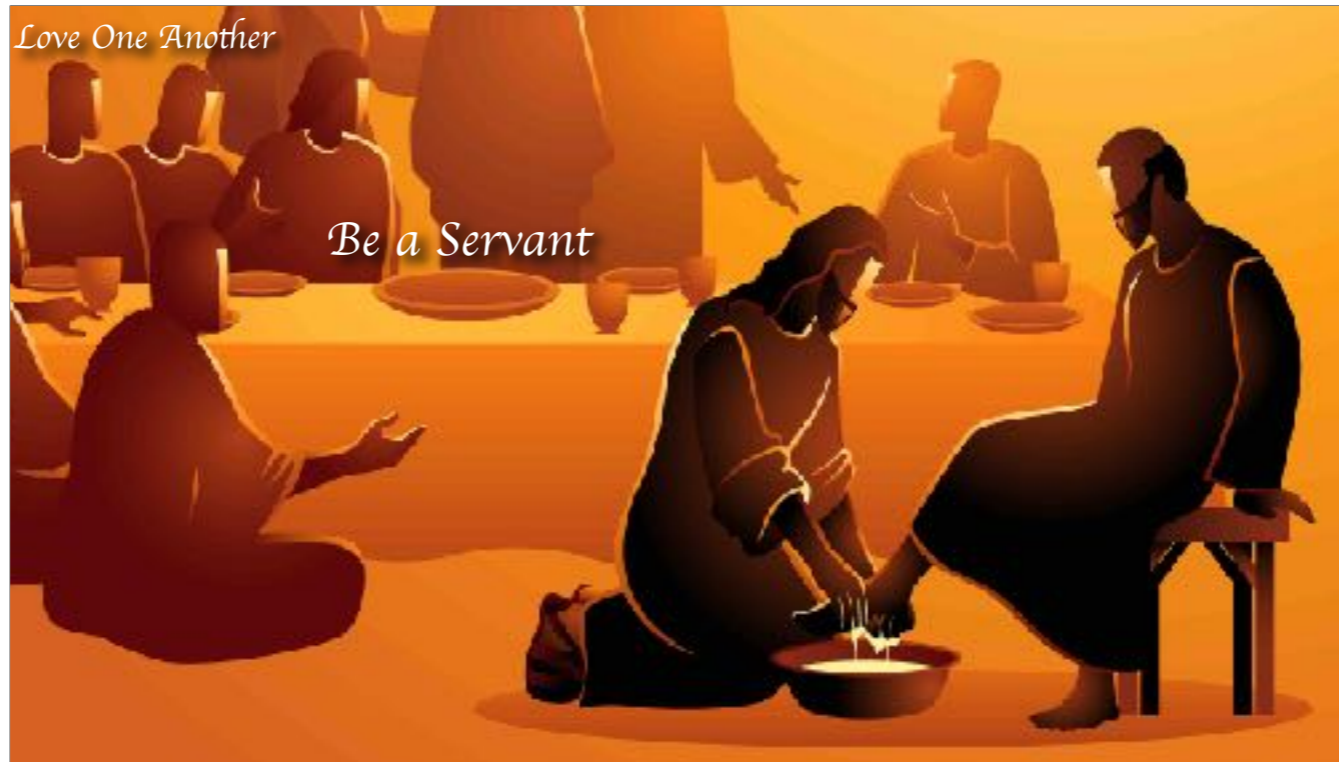
- Be a servant (10:43-45)

- Mark 10:43-45 (ESV) 43 But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

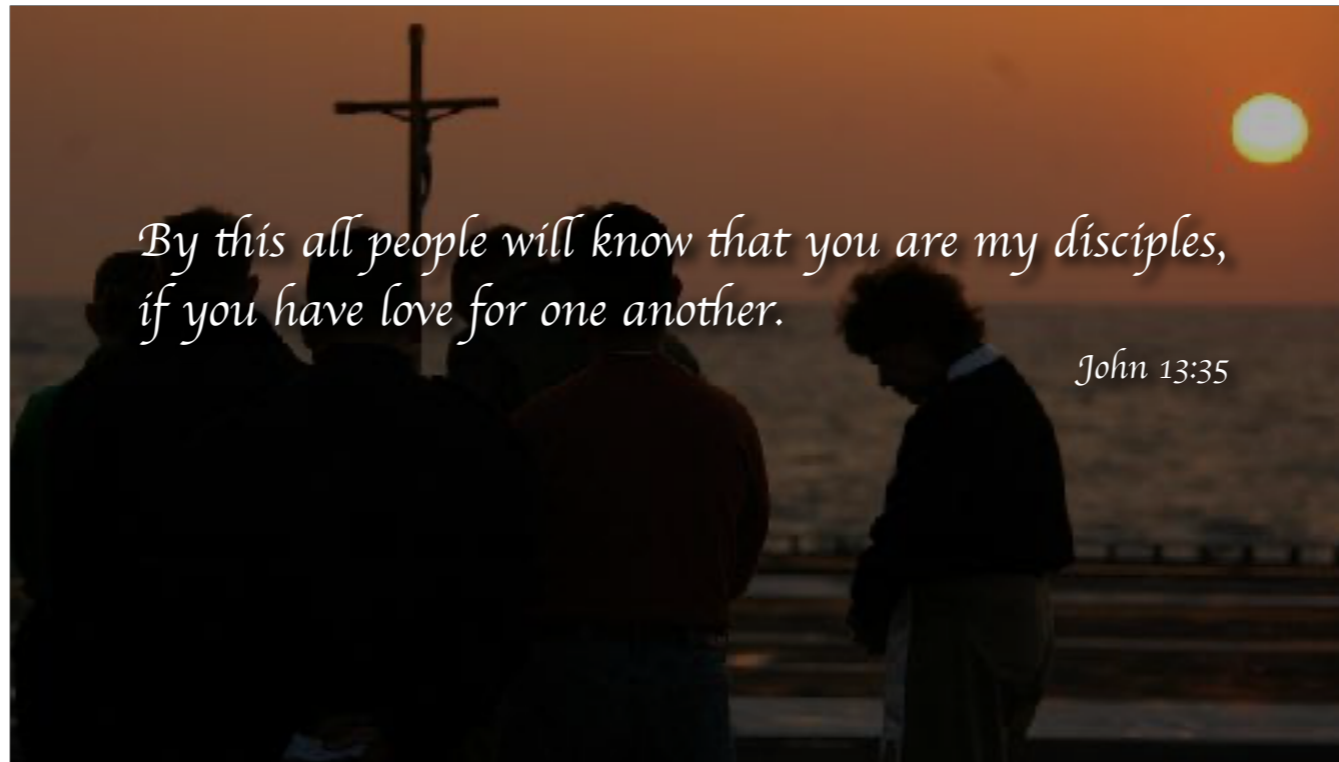




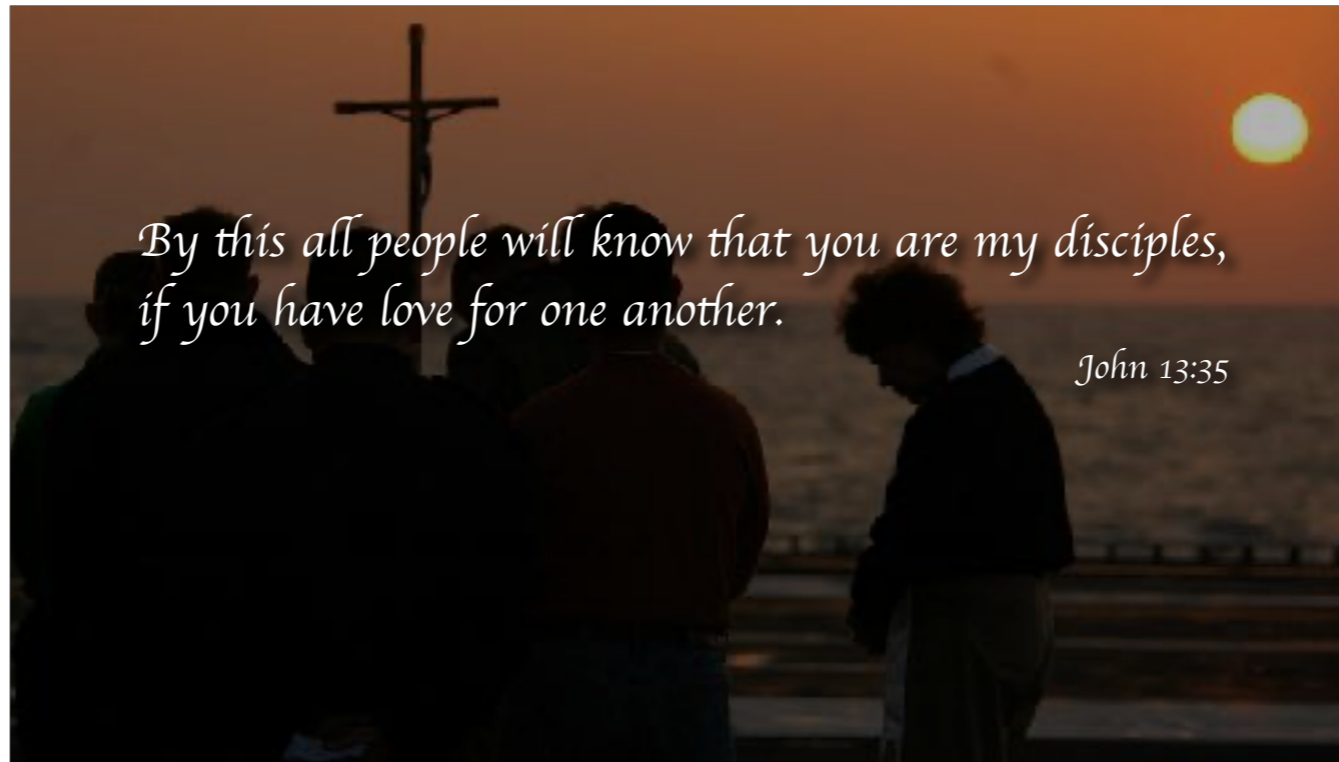
- This one we know so well ... yet struggle to really practice
  - Putting others before myself
    - Philippians 2:3-4 (ESV) 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
  - This doesn't mean you shouldn't seek help from a brother when you are in need.
    - Give others the opportunity to serve you ...
    - Sometimes takes more humility to seek help than it does to do something for someone else.



- Disciples:
  - instead of being indignant when others are blessed
  - we strive to help others attain glory, rejoice with them
    - 2 Thessalonians 2:14 To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
    - 2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV) 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.



- For us to be a truly sound/healthy church we must emphasize and prioritize loving one another as Jesus loves.
  - Not that that is all that is involved, of course
  - But Jesus points to this specifically
    - How are we to be the light of the world ... by loving one another.



- Let us be the light of the world by showing His love to one another.
  - Truth, Righteousness, Purity, Godliness: all vital.
  - God is love.
    - Because of they don't see our love, then they don't see Jesus and Jesus' love.
    - Why then would they choose to be saved.
    - If we want to save souls, let's truly love one another.

**We implore you on  
behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.**

**2 Corinthians 5:20**



## Photo Credits:

All photos from istockphoto.com, crestock.com, bigstock.com, dreamtime.com, thinkstock.com, and shutterstock.com are copyright protected. They are used by permission. Please do not reuse without permission.)

123rf.com: 27941529; 144112378; 11545462

lightstock\_99088\_medium\_user\_2379957

jesus-4779548\_1920

<https://pixabay.com/photos/people-father-daughter-smile-happy-2585733/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/despair-alone-to-be-alone-archetype-1235583/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/children-road-supportive-support-1149671/>

<https://pixabay.com/photos/sunrise-religion-faith-easter-86006/>

One Another

#06

Compiled and Presented by:  
Dave Stewart  
2021 December 26  
www.1corinthians1614.com

## Just As I Have Loved You

John 13:34-35

Synopsis: Are you a disciple of Jesus? How do others know? Jesus said that the world will know we are disciples when we love one another as He loved us. How did Jesus love the disciples? In Mark 9 and 10 we see three examples of Jesus' love: he bears with them; receives them; and is a servant.

\*Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**“Let all that you do be done with love.”**