

Living in the Much More of Love

***“Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations...”
(Deuteronomy 7:9)***

Introduction:

Review from our lesson in 1 Corinthians 13:

1 John 4:7-12, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.”

1. Only those who have been born of God and know God:

2. Only those who are in Christ are:

3. It is as we love one another that:

Living in the much more of love includes:

1. The love of God:
2. The love of the truth:
3. The love of our brothers and sisters in Christ

The Love of God

Mark 12:28-30, “And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, ‘Which commandment is the most important of all?’ 29 Jesus answered, ‘The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’”

1. The question is asked by one who really desires to know the answer:

2. Jesus answers by telling him that:

3. When we are determined to love God supremely it:

1 Thessalonians 1:3, "...remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

1. Any service for God must:

2 Thessalonians 3:5, "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ."

1. In order to love God:

James 2:5, "Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?"

1. Those who love God are recipients of God's promise to:

1 Peter 1:8, "Though you have not seen him, you love him..."

1. Being able to see God is not:

1 John 3:1, "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him."

1. It is God's love for us that qualifies us to be His children:

The Love of the Truth

Romans 12:9, "Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good."

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

Galatians 2:5, "...to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you."

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

Galatians 2:14, "But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, 'If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?'"

1. Living in the much more of the love the truth:

Galatians 4:16, "Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth?"

1. Living the much more of the love of 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..."

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

Ephesians 4:21-24, "... assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

2 Timothy 2:15, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

3 John 1:3-4, "For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

1. Living in the much more of the love of the truth:

The Love of Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ

1 Thessalonians 3:12, "...and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you..."

1. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

1 Thessalonians 4:9, "Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another..."

1. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

1 Peter 1:22, "Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart..."

1. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

2. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

1 John 3:18, "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."

1. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

1 John 4:7, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God."

1. Living in the much more of the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ:

Conclusion: