

“Christian Context & Culture”

John 13:33 –35

July 27, 2014

VIDEO: “Koinonia: Kingdom Culture #1”

Little children,
I am with you a little while longer.
You will seek Me;
and as I said to the Jews,
now I also say to you,
‘Where I am going, you cannot come.

*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.”*

Context:

Looking Back... first... Judas

*** Mind-blowing moment for John...

*** Judas goes from minister to murderer!

Judas is gone... Jesus is glorified!

Looking Ahead... 1st John...

Culture:

First Jesus... then 1st John... then Jesus again!

vv.33:

Little children,

1 John 2:1 = *My **little children**, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

1 John 2:12 = *I am writing to you, **little children**, because your sins are forgiven for His name's sake.*

1 John 2:28 = *Now, **little children**, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.*

1 John 3:7 = ***Little children**, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous;*

1 John 3:18 = ***Little children**, let us not love with word or tongue, but in action and in truth.*

1 John 4:4 = *You are from God, **little children**, and have overcome them (antichrists); because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.*

1 John 5:21 = *Little children, guard/keep yourselves from idols.*

VIDEO: “Koinonia” #2

*I am with you a little while longer.
You will seek Me;
and as I said to the Jews,
now I also say to you,
'Where I am going, you cannot come.*

His imminent death was certainly not what they would have chosen. And yet, it was both the most necessary and the most loving act Christ could perform on their behalf.

As the Lord had taught them earlier,
"I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down
His life for the sheep" ([John 10:11](#)).

Earlier in this chapter, the Lord had illustrated His humble, sacrificial love by washing the disciples' feet (13:5-15). Now He pointed to the far greater demonstration of His sacrificial love—the cross. It is this infinite expression of love that undergirds the Lord's subsequent command.

- MacArthur

vv.34-35:

*A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another:*

???NEW???

Deuteronomy 6:5 = *"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.*

Leviticus 19:18 = *'You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD*

“LOVE” = 12X in ch. 1-12

“LOVE” = 44X in ch. 13-21

1 John 1:6-7:

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; 7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

(LOVE... as COMMANDED in 1 John)

1 John 2:9 = *The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness...*

1 John 3:10 = *By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.*

1 John 3:14 = *We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.*

1 John 4:7-8 = *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

just as I have loved you,

VIDEO: *“Koinonia” #3*

It is only *"because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us"* ([Rom. 5:5](#); cf. [Gal. 5:22](#)) that believers can love as Jesus commanded.

Galatians 5:22 = *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

you also are to love one another.

VIDEO: “Koinonia” #4

QT: **D.A. Carson writes,**

The *new command* is simple enough for a toddler to memorize and appreciate..... profound enough that the most mature believers are repeatedly embarrassed at how poorly they comprehend it and put it into practice... The more we recognize the depth of our own sin, the more we recognize & appreciate the love of the Savior.

In the Sermon on the Mount, **Jesus taught that reconciliation with other people is a prerequisite to worshiping God:** "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering" (**Matt. 5:23-24**).

**By this all people will know that you are
My disciples,**

QT:

Christians are to be a loving church in a dying culture...

- Francis Schaeffer

QT: Left to ourselves, we seek our own. Movie stars marry movie stars. Doctors seek out doctors. Middle-classers seek out middle-classers. Bikers seek bikers. But when Christ comes, that changes. In the church of Jesus Christ, we discover that the people we love and with whom we fellowship are different from us. **The more there is of the love Christ exhorted us to have, a love for one another, the greater will be the diversity within the body of Christ.**

- Kent Hughes

Jesus wants his followers to show a quality of love unparalleled in the world.

QT:

"...it is not so much that Christians are to love the world less, as that they are to love one another more."

- D.A. Carson

The command to love has its first application within the body of Christ.

There are many places you can go to find communities of shared interest. There are many places you can go to find people just like yourself, who live for the world... But it is the mandate of the Church to become a community of love, a circle of Christ's followers who love & invest in one another because Christ has loved & invested in them...

- Gary Hodge

CLOSE:

IF *you have love for one another.*”

QT: Alexander Maclaren describes what happened because of Christ's command:..... “Barbarians & the civilized, slave and free, male and female, Jew and Greek, learned and ignorant... sat down at one table, and felt themselves all one in Christ Jesus. They were ready to break all other bonds, and to yield to the uniting forces that streamed out from his Cross. There never had been anything like it. No wonder the world took notice... The disciples were obeying the new commandment, and a new thing had come into the world—a community held together by love and not by geographical accidents or linguistic affinities, or the iron fetters of the conqueror. ...The new commandment made a new thing, and the world wondered.”

VIDEO: “Koinonia” #6

ILLUSTRATION & APPLICATION:

“The QUILT”

Let’s Pray