

## Loving God, Loving Each Other

John 15:12–17

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- Greatest Commandment
  - We are called to love God and love each other.
  - You can't do one without the other (ie. love God, love others).
  - We deepen our love for God when we love one another.
  
- Loving God & Each Other
  - He gives us a command, with a standard. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12 ).
  - All true love comes from beyond this world. It comes down to us from God.
  - He treats us sinners like royalty, and that's how he wants us to treat one another: “Outdo one another in showing honor” (Romans 12:10).
  - Our obedience doesn't make us his friends. His grace does that. But our obedience is how we show our friendship.
  - He measures his commands not by what we can do but by what he can do through us.
  - We cannot and did not love God first. He loved us first. Hence we come to God not on our own terms but on God's terms.
  
- Chosen & Appointed

God chose us, to give us two profound privileges. (See John 15:16)

  - He chose us and appointed us that we would go and bear fruit, and that our ministry would make an eternal difference.
  - He chose us and appointed us that whatever we ask the Father in his name, he may give it to us.
  
- C.S. Lewis Quotation

“When I have learned to love God better than my earthly dearest, I shall love my earthly dearest better than I do now. . . . When first things are put first, second things are not suppressed but increased.”
  
- Application:
  - A. Love God with...
    - i. Pure heart
    - ii. Clean Hands
    - iii. Clear Vision
  - B. Love One Another through...
    - i. Respecting
    - ii. Reconciling
    - iii. Rejoicing