

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Dear Friend:

Many of you know I Corinthians 13 as the "Love Chapter". However, there is half of an entire book of the Bible dedicated to love: I John. I have read in more than one place that the word love appears 46 times! In his Gospel, John wrote these words: "All men will know you are my disciples if you love one another". Since Jesus declares the identifying mark of a Christian is that he or she love others, how do we love as Jesus loved?

First, we are told to accept others (this does not mean to accept bad behavior). A love that completely accepts others can only come from God. Jealousy prevents us from accepting others (3:12). It is only by knowing God that we can attain a love that loves everyone! Second: Christ-love forgives others. Jesus is our model and Jesus must be our motive (3:16). Jesus modeled love by dying on the cross (sacrifice). Jesus is our motive. By "motive" I mean HE is the reason we should love people, and if they don't know him as Savior we can introduce them to Jesus and his love. Third: Christ-like love is true and complete only when we put love into action. I John 3:17 says: "How can anyone say they love someone if they see the person has a material need, yet has no pity on them" (ignores them). Christ-like love completely accepts others, forgives others and puts love into action I pray you will grow strong in all areas of love.

In Christ-like Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Rosie Farber (fractured vertebrae), Rev. Bob Gentzel (herniated disc and fractured ribs), Rev. Al Carter (cancer)

Events: Management Team Mtg-Tuesday 18th 7:00pm; Women's Ministry-Wednesday 19th 1:00pm