



# THE RELATIONAL DISCIPLE

## LOVE ONE ANOTHER

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**Discipleship groups purpose:** Each member being transformed into the image of the Son.

**Key Truth:** We are commanded to love one another as Christ loves us.

**Read:** This is impossible for us to accomplish out of our own ability and strength. To love one another as Jesus loves us is the impossible possible task. Jesus said in John, "I have made Your name known and I will make it known to them, so that the love in which You loved Me, may be in them."

Notice where the love of the Father is to be present and operating? Within us. This brings to light 1 John 2:5 that says, if we keep His word, then the love of God has truly been perfected in us. If the love of God is perfected or being perfected in us then we will be able to love one another as Jesus loves us. This truly is amazing and a reality we are to all seek and go after in Him.

#### *John 13:33-38*

<sup>33</sup> 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.'<sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.<sup>35</sup> By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where are You going?" Jesus answered, "Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later."<sup>37</sup> Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You."<sup>38</sup> Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.

#### Questions:

1. Read the above passage together and ask yourself what do you notice about Peter's response after just being given a new commandment by Jesus?
2. Why is loving one another as Christ loves us so vital in the body?
3. The bible says love covers a multitude of sin. Do you think this is just God's covering or are we to cover one another also in love and why?
4. What would a church that truly loves one another look like in action?
5. What are some of the reasons we may not be loving others like this and not experiencing this love ourselves as a church family?
6. Where does the responsibility ultimately lie for a church to become like this?

Pray and encourage one another to press in to all God has for us.