

John 15:12-17

Loving one another really, really, really matters

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12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. 17 These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

John 15:12-17 ESV

John 15:12-17 Passage Structure

A - Love one another, v. 12

B - Lay down his life, v. 13

C - You are my friends, v. 14

D - No longer do I call you slaves, v. 15a

C' - but I have called you friends, v. 15b

B' - Appointed you, v. 16

A' - Love one another, v. 17

Why should we love one another?

He Commanded Us To!

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12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

“The most important thing I learned is that soldiers watch what their leaders do. You can give them classes and lecture them forever, but it is your personal example they will follow.”

– General Colin Powell

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The results of following Christ's command:

I am loved by you.

You are loved by me.

We are loved by Him.

Why should we love one another?

He Changed Our Relationship Status.

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Friendship with God: Special Access

Abraham - 2 Ch. 20:7; Is. 40:7; Jas. 2:23

Moses - Ex. 33:11

Special Note on Friendship with Jesus

Jesus is not your buddy and certainly not your homeboy. He is your King. He is your Savior. He is deserving of your honor and worship at all times. He is never referred to as “friend” by His followers in the Bible. He brings you counsel and wisdom by His grace but not vice versa.

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He Chose Us for an Eternal Purpose.

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16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

He Chose Us for an Eternal Purpose

18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:18-19

He Chose Us for an Eternal Purpose

17 Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.

1 Co. 7:17 ESV

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Loving One Another at Tomball Bible Church

Who are your people?

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Who are your people?

What access do you give to them?

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What access do you give to them?

Is there anything hindering your relationship?

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Who will be influenced by how we love one another?

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