Love Lessons from Jesus

Jesus consistently emphasized the importance of His disciples loving each other.

And He continued to develop that teaching throughout His life.

In the Sermon on the Mount,

He urged us to draw on our own experience.

Each of us knows how we want others to treat us.

We are to treat others that same way.

Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.

(Luke 6:31, NASB; see also Matthew 7:12)

Later, He put this teaching in story form

with one of His most memorable parables:

the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

There He urges us to go and be a neighbor

to the needy people we encounter.

Then on His last evening with His disciples before His crucifixion,

He acts out His teaching

by humbly washing His disciples' feet.

He then summarizes His point this way:

"I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples: if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35, NASB)

His teaching on love reaches its culmination that same evening in John 17,

where He prays for His disciples in their presence.

He asks the Father to draw all His disciples,

of all times and all places,

into the rich, deep, loving union of

Father, Son, and Spirit.

That wonderful union is the goal He has in mind when He

consistently, powerfully, urgently calls us to

love one another.

Hymn: Love Lessons from Jesus

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