

Life on the Vine – Marks of a Growing Disciple

Week 4- “Choice Love”

John 15:12-17

OPEN WITH PRAYER

GETTING STARTED: How would most people in our society define love?

LEARNING & APPLYING GOD’S WORD

Together, read John 15:12-17 **together**

1. These verses are a continuation of last weeks verses (9-11) in which Christ said that we will remain in his love if we keep his commandments. In our verses for this week (12-17) Jesus tells us what his command is in verse 12. What is his command? According to Jesus, what is the greatest act of love? What does this act of love tell you about the type of love Jesus is talking about? Or, to put it another way, what are some characteristics of this love?
2. In his message, Steve said that the New Testament writers adopted the word “agape” to define the love that Jesus is talking about in this passage. How is agape different from other types of love, like romantic, or eros love?
3. What did Steve mean when he said that the love described in this passage is more volitional than emotional?
4. What is the difference between a love that is based in covenant and a love that is based on a contract? Why is it important that we realize that the love Christ commands us to have for each other is a covenant love rather than a contract love?

LIVING OUT “REAL LIFE”

1. Is loving “each other as Christ has loved us” realistic? How is it possible to love others in such a way?
2. What the good news from this passage and message for you?
3. Have you experienced agape in your RLG? In what ways?

SHARING AND PRAYER (Prayer Requests)

Take some time to share prayer requests, where you need to find God’s grace and peace. Be sure to give thanks for each other and pray for one another’s needs. When we pray together, we find the power of God.