

**GFBC Thursday Night's Scriptural Study**  
**Lesson # 121**  
**Scripture Reading: John 13:31-38 {KJV}**  
**Teaching Verses: 34-35 {NLT}**

**July 11, 2024**

**TEXT – JOHN 13:34-35**

**TITLE – KINGDOM WORKERS**

**VV-34-35-{NLT}- “So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples.”**

The LORD’S kingdom workers. The kingdom of God is wherever God in the fulness of Himself {Father, Son, and Holy Spirit} is in control.

A loyal, committed, and dedicated kingdom worker is one who loves the LORD with the totality of self. The principal characteristic of love is, to give sacrificially of one’s self without strings attached.

Love that is integrated and woven into the invisible fabric of God’s love is unselfish. In II Corinthians 13:4-8, the New Living Translation gives an apropro description of love.

II Corinthians 13:4-8 in the New Living Translation, the Apostle Paul said, **“It is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glade about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.**

**Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstances. Love will last forever, but prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will disappear.”**

The kingdom’s work or the King’s workers’ lives are distinguish by their love for God, each other, and our neighbor. The “brand” or the “branding” of the Christian faith is love!

A lawyer asked Jesus, what is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said, **“Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thy heart, and with**

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**all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself” {Luke 10:27, KJV}.**

The kingdom of God is the totality of where He reigns and have absolute authority over. The kingdom of God has no specific jurisdictional location. Therefore, the kingdom of God is where Jesus Christ is LORD of Lords and KING of Kings.

The kingdom of God is like the resurrection. The resurrection is not just a historical third day event, the resurrection is the person and personality of the LORD Jesus Christ.

The kingdom of God exists in the personhood of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And whomever the Holy Spirit indwells, becomes the kingdom of God.

The kingdom of God is in whomever is under the LORDSHIP of Jesus Christ. And whatever kingdom Jesus Christ is LORD, He is King!

Therefore, every person that Jesus Christ reigns over, the desired goal of a “kingdom servant” is to obey and fulfill the “King’s” command and strive to please Him. The kingdom of God is the eminent domain of the LORD.

In the context of the text, the title, and the theme, keeping it real in our kingdom work, Jesus’ victorious defeat of the devil, death, hell, and the grave. And because of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, as a believer, you are the “living kingdom of God!”

After Mary and Martha’s brother Lazarus died and was buried in Bethany, Jesus showed up. When Martha got word that Jesus had arrived, she went out to meet Him.

And when Martha meet Jesus, she said, Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. In other words, Martha was associating Jesus’ preventive power whit His physical presence.

What Martha did not realize was, Jesus does not need to be physically present in order to heal and or derail death. In Matthew 8:5-13, Jesus

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healed the centurion's servant from a distance. The power of the LORD is not restricted to His physical presence.

And because Jesus is the only begotten Son of God, His divine nature gives Him Kingly authority over matters in His kingdom. What Martha did not realize was, Lazarus' death was purpose for the glory of God.

There are some things and situations that God allows us to go through in our lives for His glory so that Jesus might be glorified. In John 11:4 {KJV}, Jesus said unto the disciples regarding Lazarus' sickness, **"This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby."**

And when Jesus arrived in Bethany and Martha went out to meet Him, Martha told Jesus, LORD, if You had been here, my brother would not had died. Jesus told Marth, *"don't get it twisted"* {Marcus' interpretation}!

Jesus told Martha, **"Thy brother shall rise again" {John 11:23}**. Martha attempted to inform Jesus of her biblical astuteness. She said, **"I know that He shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."**

And when Martha realized what she had said, and to whom she was really talking too, she issued a verbal editorial retraction and walked her previous statement back.

Martha said Jesus, *O by the way, You are so special, I know that even now, whatever You ask of God, He will do it for You {Marcus translation}*. Jesus told Martha, **"Thy brother shall rise again."** Martha said unto Jesus. **"I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."**

Jesus said unto Martha, **"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" {John 11:17-25}**.

The resurrection is more than an event. Jesus declared, I am the resurrection and the life. And because Jesus is the resurrection and the life and has all power in His hand, He the KING of KINGS and LORD of LORDS.

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And every person that possesses the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the “living kingdom of God.” Therefore, the kingdom workers’ goal is to work to please the KING, who is Jesus Christ.

You cannot be an effective kingdom worker without being loyal to the King, and the “Kingdom’s Brand.” The “kingdom’s brand” is love. And if the “kingdom’s brand” is to be authenticated in action, as a believer, you must display and demonstrate Christ’s love to each other and your neighbor.

In the teaching text, in the King James Translation, Jesus told His disciples, **“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another, By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.”**

The New Living Translation of John 13:34-35 Jesus told the disciples, **“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples.”**

Jesus said, **“I am giving you a new commandment.”** This was a new commandment because it set a new standard. Jesus’ new commandment was comparative.

In the teaching text, Jesus said, **“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.”** Before the disciples could love one another, they had to first understand and appreciate how Jesus had loved each of them.

In order for you to authentically love others and others to love you, you must determine for yourself how much God in Christ loves you! The love of God in Christ is deeper than the Cross!

God's love for you in Christ was demonstrated in Jesus' willingness to empty Himself or lay aside His equality with God to take upon Him the likeness of humanity without His human nature every becoming contaminated by sin. That's how much the LORD loves you!

Jesus laid aside His riches. He laid aside His glory. He laid aside His equality with God. He was wounded for our transgression, He was

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bruised for our inequities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed {Isaiah 53:5}.

Loyal kingdom workers are not fakes or knock offs! Keeping it real is being true to the kingdom's brand. Jesus said, **"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another, By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another."**

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ingdom workers understand and appreciate how Jesus loves, forgives, and stands with us when we fall short of His

that He might redeem you.

**In Mark 12:30-31 when the scribes asked Jesus, “Which is the first commandment of all?” Jesus said, “The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”**

Jesus told the scribes, Love ye one another as I have loved you.”

in that it had never been said before In Deuteronomy 6:5 {NKJV}, Moses commanded Israel saying, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength {Deuteronomy 6:5,

The impact of the Holy Spirit of the Holy Spirit in your life. The ultimate responsibility of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is to transform your life into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

TEXT – JOHN 13:34-35

TITLE – EXECUTING THE KING'S COMMAND