

M A C H A I R A
CHRIST COMMONWEALTH-COMMUNITY

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MACHAIRA

(Pronounced makh'-ahee-rah)

- Daily revelatory thoughts to sharpen you and to help you grow in deep spiritual understanding and knowledge.
- Scriptures for your daily meditation.
- Daily Christ-centered and apostolic-prophetic prayers.

Thursday, 16th February, 2023

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER: JESUS OUR
PATTERN 2 (A New Commandment 4)**

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

This commandment of Jesus, is specifically for the people of His household. He didn't give this commandment to the multitudes. He gave this commandment during His final moments with His disciples before His death. The importance of loving one another is the testimony of our oneness to the world. God truly loves the world, however, it is His desire that we share His special love, with one another. The only way we can reach out to the world is when we are one and love one another.

"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34

Jesus had to include the need for the oneness of the saints in His heartfelt prayer in John 17

"I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me" John 17:21 (NLT).

Beloved, the need for all the saints to be one and to love one another is imperative. From yesterday's Machaira, I began to show you the practical example or pattern of the love of Christ. Love is an action and not just an utterance (1 John 3:18). Jesus demonstrated His love of service to us, by how He washed the feet of His disciples.

"If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. (John 13:14-15)

I ask the question again, how are you serving your fellow brother in Christ? Today we look at another example of the love of Jesus. Paul the apostle, puts it this way:

"But God clearly shows and proves His own love for us, by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 (Amplified Bible)

Jesus' death was God patiently showing and demonstrating His love to us. This wasn't Apostle Paul trying to make it up. See what Jesus said;

*"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. **Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.***

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:12-14

Jesus demonstrated His greater love through His sacrificial service.

We also love one another by our sacrificial service.

Apostle Paul admonished the brethren in Philippi with this ardent instruction:

"If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care - then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with

God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death - and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion. Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, (Philippians 2:1-9, MESSAGE)

This is how you follow the example of Jesus; to love others is to serve them. You love others when you do things for them without expecting anything in return. You do things you may not like to do, and that will cost or inconvenience you. (NB: Not things that make you live contrary to God's word).

There is no love without service. Jesus said He came to serve others:

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served
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but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28

Beloved, we know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters (1 John 3:16).

Hatred towards one another is not an option. You walk in darkness if you hate a brother or a sister (1 John 2:9). The greatest among you shall be your servant. (Matthew 23:11).

Have a blessed day.

Let me know how this blessed you in the comment session.

DIG DEEPER

(1 John 4:9-11; Philippians 2:17; 1 Corinthians 13)

WE PRAY

That the Lord grants us more opportunities to demonstrate His sacrificial love towards the brethren as Christ Jesus loved us.

BIBLE READING IN THE YEAR 2023

Day 17: Genesis 16-18

DECLARE THESE WORDS:

I make great sacrifices for the brethren. I refuse to walk in hatred. Through me the brethren see the reality of the love of Christ. I go the extra mile to help the brethren. I am a great lover of the saints. I refuse to be selfish. I refuse to esteem myself above the brethren. I serve the brethren with all humility.

Hallelujah!!!