



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Interactive Sunday School Outline

TOPIC: And They'll Know We Are Christians

TEXT: John 13:1-17, 34-35

Instructions - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction – I love NY, I love bread and butter, I love my car. Our society is obsessed with the concept of love. We've enshrined it and romanticized it. At the same time, we have trivialized / belittled it and reduced it to a bumper sticker symbol. The Bible's definition of love is radically different from our culture's prevailing idea of love. The biblical idea liberates us from the shifting whims of popular opinion.

The scene is the Last Supper. Jesus is about to die and knows it. He has tried to tell his disciples, but they don't want to hear it. At the time when they should be most united, they revive an old argument about which of them is the greatest (Luke 22:24). Jesus takes action to teach them about love.

Discussion Questions:

1. Give two definitions of love: one from a worldly perspective and one from a Christian perspective.
2. What filled Jesus' thoughts as this scene began (vs. 1-3)?
3. Picture yourself as one of the disciples. Describe Jesus' actions in verses 4-6 from your perspective.
4. How would you have reacted when you saw Jesus do the things in verses 4 and 5?

5. Why did Peter object so strongly (vs. 6-8)?
6. What had Peter realized to make him respond as he did in verse 9?
7. Imagine that you are the next disciple after Peter. What do you say and do when Jesus kneels before you to wash your feet?
8. How did Jesus intend for the disciples to take his example and put it into action (vs. 12-17)?
9. What should be a Christian's standard for loving (v. 34)?
10. How will love affect the disciples' standing in the world (v. 35)?
11. What does this say about the world's own version of love?
12. What "foot washing" have members of your church performed for one another recently?
13. How can you do some "foot washing" for someone in your fellow- ship this week?