

The Reality of God's Love John 13:1

Introduction

- A. A time of great stress and confusion. Religious and civil leaders against Him/them.
- B. Told of His death – Judas – Peter to be sifted – deny Him – all scattered.
- C. Into that situation He demonstrated love – spoke peace – invited trust.
- D. He laid out the foundation of their life and ministry – guaranteed success.
- E. Provision of **supernatural presence – wisdom – power.**

I. The Promises (Prophetic Promises).

- A. You will do greater works. John 14:12
I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.
- B. I will cooperate with you in prayer. John 14:13
And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.
- C. My love will enable you to obey Me. John 14:15
If you love me, you will obey what I command.
- D. My Father will give you the Holy Spirit (A Person to take My place)
I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--
- E. I will not leave you orphans. John 14:18
I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.
- F. You will know I am in the Father, you are in Me, and I am in you. John 14:20
On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.
- G. You will know My love, My Father's love, and I will show myself to you. John 14:21
Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."
- G. My Father and I will come and make our home in you. John 14:23
If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.
- H. The Holy Spirit will teach you all things. John 14:26
But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

II. The Parable (A Clarifying Illustration for all of Life and Ministry)

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man (abides) remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

- A. A Living Relationship – a sharing of life.
- B. A Reciprocal Relationship – Vine gives and the Branch receives.
- C. A Powerful Relationship – Production mutual Growth and Beauty.
- D. A Purposeful Relationship – Manifestation of Fruit.

Conclusion and Application

1. A person-to-person bonding.
2. A Spirit-to-spirit bonding.
3. A divine-human cooperative.
4. A life and ministry guarantee of success.
5. Reminder: **I will be to you – through the Holy Spirit – all I've promised and more.**

III. The Priorities (These foundation stones for life and ministry – How to do it.)

A. Regarding His Person. John 15:4 **(The basis of all Truth – Gospel – Life.)
(Abide) Remain in me, and I will remain in you.**

B. Regarding His Word. John 15:7A

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

C. Regarding Prayer. John 15:7B.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

D. Regarding Fruitfulness. John 15:8.

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit.

E. Regarding Love. John 15:9.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

F. Regarding Obedience. John 15:10

If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love.

G. Regarding Joy. John 15:11.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

H. Regarding Ministry. John 15:12

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

Conclusion – Summary. John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last.

All real but as potential resources. Operative and powerful only as we receive and practice what it means to be a branch. Must choose to surrender – ABIDE.

