



Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 9

Next Meeting **September 13**

TODAY'S A NEW DAY!!!!

IN THIS ISSUE

A New Commandment

by Tracy Drayton

John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (NIV)

Commandment Definition: a divine rule, an order or charge given by authority. ----- *"If you Love me, keep my commandments. John 14:15."*

Situation: As Jesus is preparing his disciples for what is to come, knowing the time has come for him to lay down his life, He gives a new commandment, as part of his last instructions to his disciples, to Love one another as he has Loved them.

Observation: There are several scriptures throughout the Bible from the Old Testament thru the New Testament where God instructs mankind to love others and to do right by others. So when Jesus said he was giving them a new command, it was not just about loving others. What made this new was how we are asked to Love, "as Jesus Loves us." John 15:13 "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Inspiration: Do you remember the Love you felt when you came to accept Christ as your Lord and Savior? Jesus forgave us of all our sins. And what he wants from you today is for you to extend the same Love that was extended towards you to others. The next time you are mistreated or someone speaks lies about you, or calls you out of your name, or treats you unfairly; are you willing to Love them as Jesus Loved you and say "Father, forgive them?" It is not enough for us to be nice to those who are nice to us, but we are called to do more. Jesus said by Loving others the way he Loved you, people will know you are his disciples. In other words, people will see the Light of Christ shining through you.

Application: Take the time to read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and learn what is Love. Then make an effort to Love others the way Jesus demonstrated his Love. Let's not only talk Love, but let's show others the Love of Christ.

Exploration: *God's Love* – Jeremiah 31:3; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:19 *Abide in His Love* – John 15:9-17 *Love Your Enemies* -Matthew 5:44; *Love One Another* -Leviticus 19:18; 1 John 3:11; 1 John 4:7-8; 1 Peter 4:8; Romans 13:8

Discussion

1. Do you love others the way Jesus commanded?
2. Do you struggle to walk in this commandment? Why?
3. What has helped you to walk in this commandment?
4. How has this scripture impacted or changed your life?