"How Will They Know Us?"



This is the heart of the Gospel message - the foundation stone of our Christian faith: love is a gift of God; when we learn to love, we experience God...and our love only reflects God when it is not focused on self but on others. Our love is only Godlike when it is given unconditionally, and without being earned... and when it seeks no return.

Live on in my love - remember the things I have taught you - believe that I have told you all these things so that my joy may be in you, and so that your joy may be complete.

If we take seriously the "new commandment" that Jesus leaves us, we

have to keep examining the quality of our love, to see if it really reflects the kind of unselfish love that He spoke about and lived by. When Jesus says "Love another as I have loved you", it sounds deceptively simple and easy. But when we measure our love of God and neighbor against that "simple" rule, we find that we fall far short of that ideal most at the time.

Jesus our Shepherd says: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. Behold I make all things new."

The love of Jesus is modelled on the love of God. It is a human translation of that love - universal, unwavering, relentless. It will always be a challenge for us, an ideal for which we strive. Jesus Himself nourishes and purifies that love if we let

Him day by day. And, our love will be finally and fully like His when we share the glory of His resurrection and see our God face to face.



Click here for <u>October 2019 for Extraordinary Missionary Month</u>, and <u>here</u> for Sunday Reflections.