

Monday, January 8, 2024

Scripture focus:

John 13:34-35, 15:13-14

34 "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."

13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.

Reflection:

How have you consciously set love as a priority in your life? In what areas of your life have you fallen short of this command?

Other Scripture on love:

Revelation 2:2-5

2 "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. 3 I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. 4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

Prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, may Your will be done in the way we love one another. Forgive me when I have not loved in a way that You have commanded. Thank you for Your beloved Son Jesus. Help me to love like Jesus.

Application:

In all your interactions today, take time to pause and follow the Holy Spirit's leading in loving like our Lord Jesus.

Intercessory focus: Church Leaders

John 21:15-17

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love

me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

Take time to pray for the leaders at New Hope to remember and to be refreshed in their calling from our Lord Jesus.