

Suggestions for Application of Sermon, February 14, 2021
Love To Share
John 13:1-17; 34-45

“He loved them to the end.” That was the Apostle John’s description of Jesus’ actions toward his disciples at the Last Supper. That action continued beyond the supper, extending to the cross. As noted in the sermon, this was the “indicative”—God’s action for us. For application, the “imperative”—our response to God’s actions—focus on two perspectives: One, a look back; the other, a look ahead.

“He loved them to the end.” A Look Back

Focus on the Cross. Read the Gospel accounts of the Crucifixion of Christ (Matthew 27:27-54; Mark 15:16-39; Luke 23:26-47; John 19:16-37). Reflect on their meaning to and impact on you, personally. See in them the truth, “He loved them to the end.” Personalize this truth, to know—think, feel, and say—“He loved *me* to the end.”

“He loved them to the end.” A Look Ahead

Focus on Love. Specifically, consider your love for other people—in light of God’s love for you. **How** will you love others? Remember Jesus’ “indicative”—“As I have loved you.” Let that determine your response, the “imperative.” Read and reflect on the explanation of love—true, Godly, Christ-like, Spirit-enabled love—provided by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.