

LOVE REVOLUTION

CONFERENCE | SEPT. 20/21, 2019

*A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

JOHN 13:34



*A movement of ordinary people learning to
love one another as Jesus loves us*

Presented by Gaylord Enns
All Scriptures are taken from the NIV unless otherwise noted

Session One: The Shift

*A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
John 13:34*

When the Father sent His Son, God's incredible love for us became strikingly evident. In the Old Covenant, the focus was on our own limited ability to love God and to love our neighbor. But with the New Covenant came a shift. In the New Covenant, the focus is on God's love for us. He loves us first. We love others with the unlimited love He gave to us.

1. Background story

2. May 1, 2002 - Seeing Jesus' Command

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have **commanded** you (Matthew 28:18-20).*

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

3. New Covenant, New Command

*He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and . . . after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup in the **new covenant** in my blood" (Luke 22:19-20).*

***My command** is this: Love each other as I have loved you (John 15:12).*

*This is **my command**: Love one another (John 15:17).*

4. Old Covenant, Old Commands: Loving God and others in our strength. Loves comes from us and goes to God.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And . . . You shall love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:37-39, NASB).

5. The New Covenant comes with a dramatic shift: God reveals His love for us. In the New Covenant, God loves us first. Love comes from God and goes to us. We love with the love He first gave to us.

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 John 4:10).

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us (Romans 5:5).

6. Loving others with God's love

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another (1 John 4:10-11).

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him. By this he meant the Spirit, who those who believed in him were later to receive (John 7:38-39).

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you (John 15:9).

As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13:34).

We love because he first loved us (1 John 4:19).

7. Just as Jesus received the Father's love and gave that love to us, we also receive God's love and give His love to others.

*May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that **you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me . . . because you loved me before the creation of the world** (John 17:23-24).*

*I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that **the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them** (John 17:26).*

8. Question: Is there a difference between living under the Great Commandment in the Law and living in the One Commandment Jesus gave us? Does it matter?

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. I have told you this **so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete**. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you (John 15:9, 11-12).*

9. Picture of baby in father's arms

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God (1 Peter 1:22-23).

10. Story from 1991-"I want to hear . . ."

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who he has given us (Romans 5:5).

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! (1 John 3:1).

PERSONAL APPLICATION NOTES

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

John 13:34

What core truth was presented in this lesson?

How can it be applied in your life?

What change will this make in your relationships?

Session Two: God's Love Language

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1 John 4:20

We all have ways in which we are best able to receive love from others. But what is God's love language? How does God want us to love Him?

1. In his book, *The Five Love Languages*, Gary Chapman lists (1) quality time (2) physical touch, (3) gifts, (4) acts of service and (5) words of affirmation as ways in which us humans best receive love.

What is your love language?

What is God's love language?

2. May 1, 2002 – A Day that Changed my Life

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

3. But a huge question remained. How could Jesus give us just one commandment—to love one another as He had loved us—and leave out loving God?

The Old Covenant had two commandments and the New Covenant fulfilled the Old.

One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest

commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments (Matthew 22:35-40).

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them (Matthew 5:17).

4. One morning in February 2003, I heard the words, "You can ask a question."

. . . the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints . . . which is Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:26-27).

4A. Our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. God lives in us.

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 (John 14:23).

*Do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? (1 Corinthians 6:19).*

*For **we are the temple of the living God**. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people" (2 Corinthians 6:16).*

*No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, **God lives in us** and his love is made complete in us (1 John 4:12).*

*God is love. **Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him** (1 John 4:16).*

4B. God identifies with those He lives in.

Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:37-40).

4C. Story of scrambled eggs for breakfast

5. We can't love God unless we love our brothers and sisters. And when we love them, we are loving God. I can't love my brothers and sisters without, at the same time, loving God.

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother (1 John 4:20-21).

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting!" (Acts 9:1-5).

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them (Hebrews 6:10).

Two amazing truths became clear to me that morning!

1. I can't love God unless I love my brothers and sisters!

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen (1 John 4:20).

2. I can't love my brother or sister without at the same time loving God who lives in them!

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me' (Matthew 25:40).

6. So, what is God's love language?

Trust in and obedience to Him!

This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. (John 15:12, NASB).

PERSONAL APPLICATION NOTES

If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1 John 4:20

What core truth was presented in this lesson?

How can it be applied in your life?

What change will this make in your relationships?

Session Three: What's New!

Great Commandments of the New Covenant

And this is his command: (1) to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and (2) to love one another as he commanded us.

1 John 3:23

The Father commands that we believe in His Son. Jesus commands that we love one another as He loved us. These two commands of (1) faith and (2) love are foundational truth of the New Covenant.

1. The Bible is made up of two parts, the Old Testament (Covenant) and the New Testament (Covenant).

Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms (Luke 24:44).

Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights . . . he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28).

One of them, an expert in the law, tested [Jesus] with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:35-40).

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished (Matthew 5:17-18).

“The time is coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant . . .” (Jeremiah 31:31-32).

The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it (Luke 16:16).

2. Question: Jesus pointed out the two greatest commandments of the Old Covenant, but what are the great commandments of the New Covenant?

And this is his [God the Father's] command: (1) to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and (2) to love one another as he [Jesus Christ the Son] commanded us (1 John 3:23).

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13:34).

3. Throughout the New Testament, we see the importance of (1) faith in Jesus and (2) love for one another.

*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your (1) **faith in Christ Jesus** and of (2) **the love you have for all the saints** . . . (Colossians 1:3-4).*

1Corinthians 15:1-4 . . . I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received . . . By this gospel you are saved . . . For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures . . .

*For this reason, ever since I heard about (1) **your faith in the Lord Jesus** and (2) **your love for all the saints**, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers (Ephesians 1:15-16).*

See also Philemon 1:4-5, Galatians 5:6, 1 Corinthians 13:2 and 1 Timothy 1:14

*But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought good news about your (1) **faith** and (2) **love** (1 Thessalonians 3:6).*

*We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because (1) **your faith is growing more and more**, and (2) **the love every one of you has for each other is increasing** (2 Thessalonians 1:3).*

4. Question: Is there a difference between living under the great commandments of the Old Covenant and living in the great commandments of the New Covenant?

The Old Covenant is based on **our finite ability** to love God and our neighbor. The New Covenant is based on **God's infinite ability** to love us and empower us to love one another!

PERSONAL APPLICATION NOTES

And this is his command: (1) to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and (2) to love one another as he commanded us.

1 John 3:23

What core truth was presented in this lesson?

How can it be applied in your life?

What change will this make in your relationships?

Session Four: Ultimate Worship

Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2

Jesus told us that the Father seeks those who worship Him in spirit and in truth. What does this look like and how is it linked with living a life of love as Jesus commanded?

1. Worship is the expression of reverence and adoration for a deity. It means to bow or prostrate oneself in homage.
2. Jesus had a discussion about worship with a Samaritan woman.

*Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in **spirit** and in **truth** (John 4:23-24).*

Spirit is that which cannot be seen.

Truth is that which cannot be hidden.

3. Jesus is the “Ultimate Worshiper.” What did it look like for Jesus to worship God in spirit and in truth? Where in scripture do we see Jesus worshiping God in this way?
4. *Be imitators of God*

4A. *Be imitators of God, **therefore** . . .* (Ephesians 5:1).

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you (Ephesians 4:32).

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice (Ephesians 4:31).

*4B. Be imitators of God, therefore, as **dearly loved children** . . . (Ephesians 5:1).*

God is our Father. We are His children. He loves us dearly. That makes us **dearly loved children**.

*4C. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children **and live a life of love** . . . (Ephesians 5:1-2). The Greek word *peripateo* means to live a life of, to signifying the whole round of the activities of the individual life.*

*And this is love: that we walk in (*peripateo*, to live a life of) obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in (*peripateo*, to live a life of) love (2 John 1:6).*

*4D. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, **just as Christ loved us** . . . (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

*A new command I give you: Love one another. **As I have loved you**, so you must love one another (John 13:34).*

*My command is this: Love each other **as I have loved you** (John 15:12).*

*4E. Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and **gave himself up for us** . . . (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

The Greek word *paradidomi* means to give oneself up, to surrender, to yield up, to entrust, to transmit.

*4F. Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us **as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God** (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

In the words *fragrant offering* and *sacrifice to God*, I hear the words “ultimate worship.”

*Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God’s mercy, **to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:1-2).*

Ultimate worship is obedience to Jesus’ commandment to live a life of love.

5. But there are two sides to worship—spirit and truth.

5A. Worship in truth is worship in that cannot be hidden. It is the visible act of love as one **lays down** or **lays aside** their life in order to benefit another.

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ **laid down** (laid aside) his life for us. And we ought to **lay down** our lives for our brothers (1 John 3:16).*

*Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up **for us** . . . (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

5B. Worship in spirit is worship in the invisible fragrance that ascends to God—the smell of love inspired acts of kindness toward another.

*Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice **to God** (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

Jesus laid down His life **for us**. He gave Himself up **to God**. We ought to lay down our lives **for our brothers**. We ought to give ourselves up **to God**.

Ultimate worship is living in obedience to Jesus’ commandment. It is simply living a life of love, just as He has loved us!

6. How did Jesus worship His Father in spirit and in truth?

. . . Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2).

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us (1 John 3:16).

PERSONAL APPLICATION NOTES

Be imitators of God therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:1-2

What core truth was presented in this lesson?

How can it be applied in your life?

What change will this make in your relationships?

Session Five: My New Address

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.
Now remain in my love.
John 15:9*

Jesus gives an invitation to each of His children. We are invited to make His love our home—the place in which we live. He made a home for us by laying down His life for us. When we love as He first loved us—when we lay down our lives for others—we live in His love.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. This is my command: Love each other (John 15:9-17).

1. At the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, celebrating the historic Passover, He announced the New Covenant. Jesus had just washed His disciples' feet. Then He gave them His final message. It is the New Commandment.

Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love (John 13:1).

*[He] rose from supper, and **laid aside** His garments; and taking a towel, girded Himself about (John 13:4, NASB).*

The Greek word *tithemid* is translated here *laid aside*. *Tithemi* means to place in a passive or horizontal posture, to lay up, lay down or lay aside.

2. Remain: *Meno*

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now **remain** in my love* (John 15:9)

The Greek word *meno* is translated here *remain*. It is also translated *abide* in the NASB or *continue* in the KJV. *Meno* means to stay in a given place. It refers to an abode, a dwelling place, a home, where I live . . . my address!

*As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **Now make my love your home*** (John 15:9).

3. Question: Jesus, how do I make Your love my home?

***If you obey** my commands, you will remain in my love (make my love your home), just as I have **obeyed** my Father's commands and remain in his love (make his love my home)* (John 15:10).

The Greek word *ean* is translated here *if*. It actually means *if or when*.

The Greek word *tereo* is translated here *obey*. It means to guard from loss by never letting it out of your sight.

“When you guard my commands—never letting them out of your sight—you will make my love your home, just as I have guarded my Father’s commands and make his love my home” (paraphrase John 15:10).

4. Question: Jesus, what are your commands? What am I to “never let out of my sight”?

*My command is this: Love each other **as I have loved you*** (John 15:12).

5. Question: Jesus, **how** did you love us?

Not **what** did you do to love us, but **how** did You do what You did to love us?

5A. Answer- Part 1

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you (John 15:9).

*The Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, **whom I love**: with you I am well pleased”* (Luke 3:22).

5B. Answer – Part 2

*Greater love has no one than this, that he **lay down** (lay aside, tithemi) his life for his friends* (John 15:13).

*[He] rose from supper, and **laid aside** (tithemi) His garments; and taking a towel, girded Himself about* (John 13:4, NASB).

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ **laid down** (laid aside, tithemi) his life for us. And we ought to **lay down** (lay aside, tithemi) our lives for our brothers* (1 John 3:16).

*I **lay down** (lay aside) my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I **lay it down** (lay it aside) of my own accord. I have authority to **lay it down** (lay it aside) and **authority** to take it up **again*** (John 10:17-18).

Authority implies privilege, freedom, power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases.

Again gives the idea of “oscillatory repetition.” Over and over again one chooses to lay aside their life and take opportunities to love others. There is a repetitive rhythm to the life of love.

6. Friends: Doing the master’s business.

*You are my **friends if** you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his **master’s business**. Instead, I have called you **friends** for everything I learned from my Father I have made known to you* (John 15:14-15).

You are my friends! When you do what I command . . .

What is our master’s business?

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of

reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

John 15:9-17 GEP (Gaylord Enns Paraphrase)

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **Now make my love your home!** When you guard my commands—never letting them out of your sight—you **will** make my love your home, just as I have guarded my Father’s commands and make his love my home. **My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.** Greater love has no one than this, that he lay aside his life for his friends. You are my friends! When you do what I command, I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends--associates, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. **This is my command: Love each other.**”

Bonus One: “Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.” v. 16

Bonus Two: “I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be maximized.” v. 11

7. His amazing invitation is: “Now make my love your home.” He wants us to do all of our living out of His love for us.

OFFICIAL CHANGE OF ADDRESS ORDER

Name _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

PERSONAL APPLICATION NOTES

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.

Now make my love your home!

John 15:9 GEP

What core truth was presented in this lesson?

How can it be applied in your life?

What change will this make in your relationships?

