

**JOHN 15:1-17**

- Recap: last week we looked at vs 11, where we discussed Jesus' joy and our joy. His joy is us becoming one with Him, our joy is stepping into our God given destiny.
- We discussed that God wants us joyful to give us the strength to not let our love grow cold
- This week we discuss vs 12-15
- vs12 "This is **My commandment**, that you love one another as I have loved you."
- Jesus sets the new covenant standard for love vs old covenant: love your neighbour as yourself
- vs13 "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."
- Jesus reminds us of the cost: self sacrifice. The gospel is not about our greatest life "now"
- We will not be able to love like this, if we're not abiding (living with an overwhelming awareness of God's love) in Christ.
- Abiding simply means a life totally submitted to and living for Jesus
- The most powerful people are those who love like Jesus

vs14 "You are **My friends** if you do whatever I command you"

- Jesus places relationship above results.

vs15 "No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing but I have called you friends"

- We have to grow from believer to servant to disciple to sons and daughters

vs15 "for **all things** that I heard from My Father I have made known to you"

- Jesus lets us in on family mysteries (secrets). What comes to us from the Father through Jesus, gives us life in abundance:

**2 PETER 1:3** as His divine power has given to us **all things that pertain to life** and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

**2 TIMOTHY 3:16(NLTSE)** All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

- Jesus' teachings are like mysteries to those who's hearts are not open to His gospel

**LUKE 8:10** And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'"

- Nothing outside, of **all the things** that Jesus taught from the Father, will give us God's version of abundant life

**CARE GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Discuss the difference between servants and friends in general, not in the Biblical context.
2. What was Jesus' purpose in differentiating between friends and servants?
3. In what ways, did Jesus command about love, change things?
4. Discuss what practical effect, the words of scripture, are having on your day to day life?