

EXHORTATION

The Main Thing: Love One Another!

John 13:34

“A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; even as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.”

Pastor Juan Carlos Ortiz led a church in Beunos Aires, Argentina. At one point, he realized his church was educated beyond their experience. They knew a lot more than they were putting into practice. Many of them were getting 2 or 3 sermons a week, plus Bible studies in homes. Before they had time to digest and apply one message, they were getting another. So he decided it was time for a change.

One Sunday, he stood up to preach, opened his Bible and read these words of Jesus: “Love one another.” The congregation sat there, waiting. He got up and said again, “Love one another,” and sat down. The congregation became nervous wondering when the pastor will preach. He got up a third time and said, “Love one another,” and sat down again.

A man on the first row leaned over to the man next to him and said. “I think the pastor wants us to love one another.” Then he asked him, “Is there anything I can do for you?” When his neighbor admitted he was having some financial difficulty, the first man opened his wallet and said, “Let me help you.” Soon, all across the auditorium, people were talking and laughing and praying and crying and giving. They were practicing how to love one another and they continued for the next few months until they not only knew it, but were doing it.

The mark of a Christian is love. If we don't love one another, Jesus says it is safe to assume that we're not Christians. However if we are Christians, then we must love one another as Christ loves us. It's an absolute necessity. As Christians, we are to love our neighbor, regardless of race, religion, or any other distinction. We are to show our love by humbly serving one another and doing what's best for one another no matter what it cost us. We are to give our lives away one quarter at a time. We are to ask one another, “Is there anything I can do for you?”

With help from Pastor Joe Wittwer, love one another!

Processional Hymn: AHB 235

1 Give to our God immortal praise,
Mercy and truth are all His ways:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat His mercies in your song.

2 Give to the Lord of lords renown;
The King of kings with glory
crown;
His mercies ever shall endure,
When lords and kings are known
no more.

3 He built the earth, He spread the
sky.
And fixed the starry lights on
high:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat His mercies in your song.

4 He fills the sun with morning
light,
He bids the moon direct the night:
His mercies ever shall endure,
When suns and moons shall shine
no more!

5 He sent His Son with power to
save
From guilt and darkness and the
grave:
Wonders of grace to God belong,
Repeat His mercies in your song.

6 Through this vain world He
guides our feet,
And leads us to His heavenly seat:
His mercies ever shall endure,
When this vain world shall be no

Hymn for Sermon: AHB 305

1 Lord, Thy Word abideth,
And our footsteps guideth;
Who its truth believeth
Light and joy receiveth.

2 When our foes are near us,
Then Thy Word doth cheer us,
Word of consolation,
Message of salvation.

3 When the storms are o'er us,
And dark clouds before us,
Then its light directeth,
And our way protecteth.

4 Who can tell the pleasure,
Who recount the treasure,
By Thy Word imparted
To the simple-hearted?

5 Word of mercy, giving
Succour to the living;
Word of life, supplying
Comfort to the dying!

6 O that we, discerning,
Its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear Thee,
Evermore be near Thee!

THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

MONDAY – 2 Chron. 1:1-3:17, Matt. 18

TUESDAY – 2 Chron. 4:1-6:11, Matt. 19

WEDNESDAY – 2 Chron. 6:12-8:10, Matt. 20

THURSDAY – 2 Chron. 8:11-10:19, Matt. 21

FRIDAY – 2 Chron. 11:1-13:22, Matt. 22

SATURDAY – 2 Chron. 14:1-16:14, Matt. 23

SUNDAY – 2 Chron. 17:1-18:34, Matt. 24

With God's help, I will read the Bible every day!

Recessional Hymn: AHB 333

1 Thou, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And, where the Gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!

2 Thou who didst come to bring
On Thy redeeming wing
Healing and sight,
Healt to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind,
Let there be light!

3 Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving holy Dove,
Speed forth Thy flight!
Move on the waters' face
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And, in earth's darkest place,
Let there be light!

4 Blessèd and holy Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide,
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the world far and wide,
Let there be light!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CONTACT:

Prof. Z.S.C. Okoye – 08037001839
Mr. Peter Omo-Erigbe – 08036162461

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP CONTACT:

Mrs. Abigail Dang – 08038063521
Mrs. Gertrude Ogboli - 08036982767