

I. Real Love.

- A. Real love – the “agape” love of the Bible – is an unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial love.**
- B. This is the kind of love that Jesus has for us and this is the kind of love the Jesus wants us to have for others.**
- C. Agape love is a work that God does in us as we allow the indwelling Holy Spirit to control our lives.**

II. Four Truths About Real Love.

- A. Jesus commands his followers to love (v.11).
 - 1. Jesus told people to love one another and he showed people how to love one another.**
 - 2. Love is sharing a part of yourself with someone else.**
 - 3. When we love like Jesus loves, unbelievers will likely do one of two things: they will either be drawn to Christ or hate the cause of Christ (v.12,13).****
- B. Loving the Jesus way will give us the assurance that we are born again (v.14).
 - 1. Agape love is a sure sign that you have become a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17)**
 - 2. Absence of love is an indication that you have never experienced the new birth (cf. 1 John 2:9,11).**
 - 3. Those who truly love Jesus can and do hate, but they do not harbor hatred (v.15).****
- C. The cross was/is the greatest demonstration of love (v.16).
 - 1. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered and died so that sons of men might have eternal life.**
 - 2. Skeptics can call Christ’s death whatever they want to call it, but I will always call it love.**
 - 3. Jesus demonstrated his love for us by laying down his life for us, and now Jesus calls us to demonstrate our love for him by laying down our lives for him and one another (Rom. 12:1 and Josh. 24:14,15).****
- D. Loving the Jesus way will compel us to do the Jesus thing (v.17,18).
 - 1. Christ-like love will produce Christ-like action.**
 - 2. It will compel us to give of ourselves to others.**
 - 3. If you were arrested for being a disciple of Jesus, would there be enough love in your life to convict you? (John 13:35).****