



## Caring for the Church

June 27, 2021

John 12:23-26

*"Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.'"*

John 13: 14, 15, 17

*He washes their feet! "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you...Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."*

**There's a sense of [inner satisfaction](#) that happens when we love the way Jesus loves**

Matthew 20:25-28

*It's about serving others. "Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'"*

James 1:22-24

*"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror, and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like."*

**We need to see [serving](#) as [loving](#) Jesus**

John 13:34-35

*"A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

Caring for God's people is **loving** the way **Jesus loves**

**The love Jesus speaks of is a combination of:**

- **Caring:** Displays kindness and concern for another person
- **Tangible:** There is an outcome that is real and changes something
- **Noticeable:** It is clear or apparent
- **Memorable:** Easily remembered, is special and worth remembering
- **Repeatable:** Can be done again in other or similar contexts
- **Learnable:** Anyone can learn to do it
- **Teachable:** Can be taught to people
- **Remarkable:** Extraordinary, counter-intuitive, supernatural

Love is doing what you **don't want to do** because you want to do it.

**Two ways we can love the way Jesus loves**

1. Love when you feel like it. (easiest)
2. Love when you don't feel like it (most challenging)

**Caring for the Church**

1. Serve others in a way that feels natural and pleasing to you
2. Serve others when it is difficult and challenging
3. Ask the Lord to give you strength, vision, wisdom, and direction to do what he sets before you.