#### FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS

#### **Lesson 13: LOVE-THE WAY TO VICTORY**

**Purpose:** In this lesson you will begin to learn about the New Commandment Jesus gave all Christians. The New Commandment is a command to love others. You will learn about the God kind of love and how to develop this love in your daily walk.

## I. God is love and He has displayed His love to us.

#### A. God Is Love:

- 1. <u>1 John 4:7-8</u> 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. NKJV
  - a. To know love and to know God is the same thing for God is love.
  - b. Those who are born again and love others truly know God. It is possible to be born again and not truly know God. Christians who do not walk in love do not know God as they should.

## B. God Displayed His Love To Us:

- Romans 5:8-10 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. NKJV
- 2. In the death of Christ we see God's love is: 1) unconditional, 2) takes the first step, 3) gives what is needed, 4) and sacrificial. Not interested in what is fair.
- 3. Natural human love is the opposite. Natural human love depends on the behavior of others. Before we can love with natural human love the other person must be kind to us. But when they are not kind we no longer love them.

#### II. love others as He loves us.

#### A. The Law of The New Covenant.

 John 13:34-35 - 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." NKJV

## III. God's Love Defined

A. 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 - 1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never

fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

- 1. This is how God loves us.
- 2. This is the God kind of love.
- 3. To keep the new commandment of the new covenant we choose to love others according to the 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.
- 4. The God kind of love is a choice not a feeling. We chose to love others according to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.
- 5. We do not wait for a feeling. But we step out in faith and begin to love according to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.
- B. Romans 13:8-10 8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. NKJV

#### C. When We Love We Always Win.

- 1. Romans 12:21 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- 2. When we walk in love we will rise victorious of the wrong people do to us. We do not allow the sin or wrong doing of others drag us down.

## D. Love Causes Us To Stand Strong

Ephesians 3:17-19 - 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

#### IV. How can we develop our love walk?

- A. Know That You Already Have God's Love In You.
  - 1. Romans 5:5 5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. NKJV
- B. Know there is the God kind of love and natural human love.
- C. Pray the prayer of Ephesians 3:16-21 for yourself every day.
- D. Confess 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 over yourself every day.

**Conclusion:** God has created us in His image because He wants us to be like Him. The most important characteristic of God that He wants us to have is love, to love others like He loves us. This is why Jesus emphasizes love as a commandment. As you pray and confess the scriptures about God's love the power of God's word will develop God's love in you more and more until you love others as God loves you.

Is there someone you do not love as God loves you? If yes then God wants you to repent and act on the scriptures you heard today and begin to love them as God loves you.

READING ASSIGNMENT: Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 every day.

## FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS

### **Lesson 13: LOVE-THE WAY TO VICTORY**

COMPREHENSION TEST: For instructor with answers.

1.	How did God display His love for us?
	Be sending Jesus to die for us while we were still sinners and enemies of God.
2.	How are we to love others?
	The same way Jesus loves us.
3.	List four things that describe God's love that were taught in this lesson> 1Unconditional
	2Takes the first step
	3. Gives what is needed
	4. Sacrificial
4.	Can we say we love God and hate our brother? Why?  No
5.	What kind of love is described in 1 Corinthian 13?  The God kind of love
	List the four ways taught in this lesson about how we can develop our love walk.

- 1. Know you already have God's love and are therefore able to love as God loves.
- 2. \_ Know the difference between the God and man kind of love.
- 3. Pray the Ephesians 3 prayer for yourself everyday.
- 4. Meditate and confess the scriptures bout love in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 daily.

## **FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS**

# **Lesson 13: LOVE- THE WAY TO VICTORY**

COMPREHENSION TEST: For new believer

1.	How did God display His love for us?
2.	How are we to love others?
3.	List four things that describe God's love that were taught in this lesson> 1.
	2
	3.
4.	Can we say we love God and hate our brother? Why?
5.	What kind of love is described in 1 Corinthian 13?
6.	List the four ways taught in this lesson about how we can develop our love walk.  1
	2.
	3
	4