

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

June 30, 2021

John 13: 31 - 38

31 Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. **32** If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. **33** Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you. **34** A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. **35** By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. **36** Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. **37** Peter said unto him, Lord, why can not I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. **38** Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

To begin tonight's study, Pastor Tom brought up a chart on the screen breaking down John 13:34 word by word in Greek.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, **That ye love** one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

This term "That ye love" in Greek is ἀγαπάτε or agapate.

The Greeks had at least 3 meanings for the word **love**:

1. **Agape** - pure love of God, unconditional love
2. **Phlios** - brotherly love (like Philadelphia, city of brotherly love)
3. **Eros** - physical love (like the word erotic)

God says He loves us with agape love, no matter what. And we cannot have agape love for anyone else without Jesus Christ.

Pastor Tom read all the verses then began analyzing verse by verse.

Verse 31

Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

*In this verse Judas leaves the scene in the Upper Room. Judas, or evil, had to be gone from the room before Jesus could be glorified or honored.

*Have you ever been in the presence of pure evil? Some people described it as something you know is bad, as making your skin crawl. Others described it as someone you know is bad. Pastor Jon recalled a time when he was called on to rid a group home of an evil presence. Pastor Tom agreed that spiritual warfare is real. Discussion continued. II Peter 2:4 says: *For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;*

*Up to this point we believe that Satan (evil) had entered into Judas and began manipulating Judas with that evil presence. When Jesus told Judas to leave because Satan could not be in the room when Jesus, part of the triune God, is glorified.

Verse 32

If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him.

*Here Jesus is telling the rest of the disciples in more detail about the trinity (or 2 parts of it because the Holy Spirit had not yet been poured out on the believers) being glorified together with one another.

*Many people will talk about God this and God that. But they clam up when Jesus' name enters the conversation. God is sifting the God-talkers from the true believers in Jesus within the United Methodist Church these days.

*In Christianity, Jesus must be glorified because without Christ there is no Christianity. When we get off base from Jesus, the Church (bride of Christ) will not be glorified. TV preachers do a lot of God-talking but do not point to

or recognize Jesus. They teach that there does not need to be any repercussions because there is no sin!

Verse 33

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.

*Where did Jesus go after He died? To hell to take our sins to hell. (He led captivity captive. Ephesians 4:8)

*But redemption was not complete until Jesus returned to heaven after being in hell. (Even when the disciples saw Him after the resurrection, He told them not to touch Him because He had not returned to the Father yet)

This led to a discussion of angels giving us signs of our loved ones in heaven.

Verses 34 and 35

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

*By this agape love (unconditional love of God), Jesus went to the cross for us. And people should see how we as believers are different because of our agape love for them. Agape Love is our distinguishing mark as Christians.

Verses 36 - 38

Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. 37 Peter said unto him, Lord, why can not I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. 38 Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

*Peter eagerly wants to follow, go with, Jesus now but he cannot; not until the resurrection happens first. And in the meantime, Peter will deny Jesus 3 times before the next morning! Yet when the early church is established, Peter is its founder. This occurred because the triune God entered Peter at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit touched the people. Peter never let go of his faith in the ONE who loved him after that. Peter was eventually martyred on a cross, upside down.

Phone opened for greetings and good-byes.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee
While we are absent one from the other.
