



Part 8 of Luminous

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Do not just say you love someone, show them. Christ's words were so powerful because he lived them out. The calling is to live and love like Jesus. Live well so that you can love others well!

Setting the Scene:

- Raising Cain: means to cause a commotion, to create a disturbance, to make trouble.

³When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. ⁴Abel also brought a gift—the best of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, ⁵but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected. ⁶"Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected?" ⁷You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, **eager to control you**. But you must subdue it and be its master." Genesis 4:3-7

- This teaching is a battle cry to let us care for one another. Watch your heart, don't have envy that leads to hatred and murder.

¹⁴Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. James 1:14-15

³⁴So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. John 13:34

1. Loving one another is Genuine (3: 11-15)

¹⁸"If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first. ¹⁹The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you. John 15:18-19

- Christians who live the light expose the darkness in others. This causes anger in people because they love their darkness.
- If you are embraced by the world, you should reexamine your personal discipleship.
- Vs. 14- "Passed" is a perfect-tense verb indicating that something experienced in the past has continuing and abiding results. Those who do not love others well are still living in darkness.

Tell me how much you know of the sufferings of your fellow men, and I will tell you how much you have loved them. -Helmut Thielicke

²¹"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' ²²But I say if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell. Matthew 5:21-22

- Love Plan: Who should I be going after? What can I be doing to let the person know I care?
- Five Love Languages: Affirmation, Quality Time, Touch, Gifts, Acts of Service

³⁵Your **love for one another** will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:35

2. Loving one another is Sacrificial (3:16-19)

Because he is the example, believers ought to lay down [their] lives for one another. They do this by becoming truly concerned about the needs of their Christian brothers and sisters and by unselfishly giving time, effort, prayer, and possessions to supply those needs. Such an attitude would result in actually dying for a brother or

sister if this were ever necessary. Believers' own lives should not be more precious to them than God's own Son was to him.¹

- Forgive one another (Eph. 4:32)
- Accept one another (Rom. 15:7)
- Care for one another (Gal. 6:2)
- Encourage one another (Heb. 3:13)
- Submit to one another (Eph. 5:21)
- Bear with one another (Col. 3:13)- Means you are going to meet people you are not like them
- Restore one another (Gal. 6:1)- People are going to fail and sin; what do we do? We don't abandon them.
- Carry one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2)

¹⁴What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. James 2:14-17

- See a need, fill a need.

3. Loving One Another is built on confidence in the Lord. (3:20-24)

- Fix your Focus on Jesus, and your heart will not condemn you anymore.
- Jesus desires to lay down his life through us.

Our confidence in Christ does not make us lazy, negligent, or careless, but on the contrary, it awakens us, urges us on, and makes us active in living righteous lives and doing good. There is no self-confidence to compare with this. Ulrich Zwingli²

One last Thought: The Bible is clear that an encounter with Jesus will bring on a new life. The world knows we are Christians by our love for one another.

¹ Barton, B. B., & Osborne, G. R. (1998). [1, 2 & 3 John](#) (p. 75). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House.

² Barton, B. B., & Osborne, G. R. (1998). [1, 2 & 3 John](#) (p. 79). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House.