

# SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 15:12-30



### Have you ever had the thought...

"How do I love the one who is working to take the promotion at work that I honestly deserve?"

"How do I love my spouse whose eyes drift from time to time?"

"How do I love my child who seems to have no respect for me at times?"

"How do I love my friend who just shamed me on their social media?"

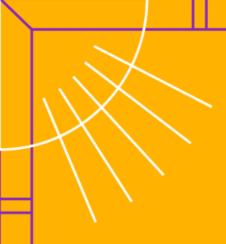
POINT 1

# The Story

"That guy over there, the one who is going to betray me, he is still of worth to the Father and I will choose to treat him as my brother, even though I know he is going to do his best to get out of me everything he can, even if it's for only 30 pieces of silver..."

"Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me." Psalm 41:9

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you going to do more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:43-48



#### If...

Jesus said that this kind of love for someone was to be an example of how we should love someone...

#### Then...

How can we, as humans, expect to do what Jesus expects of us when it's contrary to human nature?

"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." John 14:12

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

The Spirit of Truth, i.e. the person of the Holy Spirit

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being." Ephesians 3:16

#### "...we have the mind of Christ."

1 Corinthians 2:16

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will." Romans 12:2 Yet, Jesus was troubled in his spirit in verse 21...

# Loving can hurt at times...

And those we love can hurt us the most...

#### P 0 1 N T 2

# A Conversation

## Can I wash your feet?



Jesus is the one who sent the disciples out to fulfill his mission. He also sends us to do the same thing.

Love one another
Serve one another
Prefer one another
In His name, in His power

