

Love: Tasting Our Perfect Home

John 15:12-17

May 24, 2026

Home. What is it? Where is it?

Can the fellowship in church be home?

The Love Sandwich v. 12, 17

Our text begins and ends with love.

What is a definition of love?

What is God seeking from us?

How can we find the strength to love others?

The Greatest Example of Love v. 13

Jesus died on the cross for His friends.

This love isn't an abstract concept, it is a present possession.

There are difficult people out there. You know them.

What is the answer to our excuses to avoid loving others?

Who are the Friends of Jesus? v. 14

Those who do what He commands, are the friends of God.

Jesus loves us with a self-generated love.

Can you command emotions? Can you command love?

Jesus Promotes His Servants to Friends. v. 15

What is the evidence of true friendship?

What is the sign that a boyfriend could be marriage material?

The Fruit of Friendship v. 16

God has chosen me. God has appointed me. For what? To bear lasting fruit.

God empowers us for a purpose. He is with us.

The Command to Love v. 17

Love is the goal of all the blessings that we receive.

Let us love one another, as Christ has loved us.

Meditation

“Which is the great commandment in the Law?” (Matthew 22:36). The question seems innocent enough until we consider its background and context. The Jewish leaders had plotted against Jesus and were trying to “entangle Him in His talk” (v. 15). After turning the tables on them when they asked Him about taxes, exposing their ignorance of Scripture and God’s power concerning the resurrection, He entertained this question about the law.

Rabbis had lengthy debates over this question. They had divided the Mosaic Law into 613 commands — 248 positive ones and 365 negative ones. Their arguments focused on which ones are great and heavy versus those that are small and light. Jesus dismissed all of those ... debates by giving a comprehensive answer that both satisfied the inquisitor and revealed God’s overarching will for those who bear His image. “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets” (Matthew 22:37–40). Jesus’ answer gives the point and purpose of the whole law. He summarizes our complete responsibility in terms of relationships, specifically, our relationships to God and to people. The essence of all our relationships, He says, is love.

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