

2026-10-11

If You Love Jesus

John 14:15-24

John 14:15 Jesus said, *“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”* Do you love Jesus? The first thing to notice is the choice we have. *“If.”* You have a choice. The choice presented to the disciples here is to love Jesus or not love Jesus. This choice is not a one and done type of thing. Our choice is always before us, every minute of every hour of every day. It is a continual choice we are given through the changes in life. *“If you.”* Jesus is speaking to His disciples. He is not talking to the world. He is talking to people who know Him, people who have chosen to follow Him because they believe His is the Messiah. **Even as disciples**, they still had a choice (John 6:66) We still have the same choice. *“If you love.”* This is the agape love, the unconditional love that Jesus showed to everyone, even those who did not believe Him. Jesus asks for this same unconditional love that He shows to others, to be shown to Him and to others. This is a sacrificial love, a love that gives even at great costs to self. *“If you love Me.”* The disciples of Jesus are to love Jesus. When loving Jesus, His disciples learn that loving Jesus includes loving others who are hurting, struggling, and needy. *“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”* Jesus has defined loving Him as obeying His word. If you really love Jesus, you are obligated and responsible to obey all of His moral and religious precepts. These include the thoughts we think, the words we speak, how we treat others, and how we manage our emotions to how we manage our finances. **Lip service without life service is meaningless.** Jesus will say at the end of this thought, *“He who does not love Me does not keep My words”* (14:24). Do you love Jesus? Are you keeping His word? Our actions reveal the truth.

Verses 16-18 *“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—The Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”* Jesus knows that it is impossible for His disciples to keep His commands with complete devotion under the power and influence of our sinful nature. The only way that we can truly show Jesus our love for Him by keeping His commands is with His help. We need the Spirit of truth, the Helper, our Comforter. The Holy Spirit is all powerful! He has power over our sinful nature. When the Holy Spirit comes into our lives, He does not come to be a passive passenger along for a ride. He comes with power to enable us to love Jesus and be obedient to His word. Before He can come into our lives, we must first recognize our need to have a new Master and die to our sinful nature. We cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). Jesus promises to put His Spirit, God’s Spirit inside of every person permanently who choose to love Jesus.

The world are those people who have made the choice not to love Jesus. They cannot receive His Spirit because they have their sinful nature as their master. The world cannot see His Spirit. Can you see His Spirit? We do not see His Spirit the way we see each other. The disciples of Jesus sense the leadership of God's Spirit in their lives. They sense the conviction of God's Spirit on morality, righteousness and sin. The disciples of Jesus repent of their sins and seek unity, forgiveness and understanding, not hatred, division and selfishness. Although Jesus will not be physically present with His disciples. They have His guarantee that they will never be alone. God, through His Spirit will live in and be the Master of everyone who loves Jesus. The Holy Spirit does not come to take over our lives and make all our decisions for us. We are responsible for our choices and our lives. The Spirit is in us to enable us to do the right things and make the right choices when we obey Him.

Verse 19 *"A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also."* Judas, not Iscariot, will pick up on this statement of Jesus and ask his question in verse 22. The Jews and the disciples were still expecting the Messiah to establish His kingdom on this earth at this time (Matthew 20:20-28). The disciples were confused by this statement. They thought since Jesus is the Messiah, He will establish His kingdom and all the world would see Him as King. Jesus told the disciples that He would be seen by the world for only a little while longer. Jesus is referring to His crucifixion. Once He is dead and buried, He will not be seen by this generation of Jews again. After Jesus rose from the dead, He did appear to His disciples several times (1 Corinthians 15:4-8). Since Jesus rose from the dead, He is alive! Because He is alive forever, Jesus gave a great promise to those who love Him. They too, will live forever with Him.

Verse 20 *"At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."* When will the disciples understand and know these things that Jesus was talking about? The disciples gave some indication that they understood some things, mainly that Jesus is the Messiah (John 16:29-30). Their full understanding began when they saw Jesus alive, resurrected from the dead. The completion of their knowledge and understand would come at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came to live in the disciples forever.

Verse 21 *"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."* This is the second time Jesus states that it is important for His disciples to keep His commandments, His teachings. Instead of the world seeing Jesus keeping every word the Father commanded Him, the world will get to witness the followers of Jesus keeping His commands. Jesus is not emphasizing the Ten

Commandments here. He is talking about all of His moral and religious precepts He has taught His disciples. Jesus emphasized more about love and compassion and forgiveness as well as obedience and faithfulness. This is a great verse to memorize! We have been given great knowledge concerning God's design for life. We are called to keep, obey what we have learned. The world will call us crazy and try to convince us to believe and follow their way of life. If you love Jesus, you will not give into that lifestyle. The people who have the teachings of Jesus are to keep the teachings of Jesus. They are the people who love Jesus. Jesus' aim is to give direction not perfection. Again, **lip service without life service is meaningless.** Three things happen to those people who love Jesus. 1. God the Father will love every person that keeps the teachings of Jesus. 2. God the Son will love every person who keeps His teachings. And, 3. God the Son will manifest, reveal, show Himself to every person that keeps the teachings of Jesus. Remember, Jesus is speaking to His disciples. Salvation is not gained by obedience to the law. We are not under law. We are under grace (Romans 6:14). We are saved by God's grace seen in the sacrifice of Jesus. We are not saved by obedience to the law. We cannot be perfect. Our obedience to the law shows God the Father that we love Jesus. Because of a person's love for Jesus, He will show the person deeper, encouraging truths so that you may know and love God more. Hopefully most of the disciples were listening to Jesus' teaching here. At least one of them was still thinking about another statement Jesus made.

Verse 22 *"Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, 'Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?'"* Judas is questioning a statement Jesus made in verse 19. Jesus does not deal with Judas' question. He ignores it. Jesus realized that Judas was not paying attention to this very important concept. So, Jesus, for the third time made this same statement. Are you listening? Do you get this?

Verse 23 *"Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make our home with him.'"* Here is the only place in scripture that you will find stated that God the Father will come and make His home in every disciple of Jesus. Again, Jesus is making sure His disciples understand this truth. He does state it a bit differently. Instead of using the word "*commandment*," He used the word, "*word*" referring to His complete and comprehensive teachings. What is Jesus emphasizing? If you really love Jesus, you will find the time you need to get to know all the teachings of Jesus and learn to apply them into your life. Too often, we become satisfied with who we are in Christ and how we are living. We think we are obedient enough. We think we really do not need to change or grow in our knowledge and understanding of God. **Do not become satisfied with a shallow relationship with Jesus Christ.** You may be satisfied with your relationship with Jesus, but is He satisfied with His

relationship with you? Ask Him if He is. Be honest with yourself. Let Jesus reveal Himself to you. Learn more of His teachings that you need to apply to your life. Be conformed to His image (Romans 8:29). Learn how God wants to use you for His glory.

Jesus said, *“We will come to him and make our home with him.”* Jesus was speaking of God the Father and Himself coming to live in His disciples through the Holy Spirit. Let that truth sink in. God the Father and God the Son through God the Holy Spirit makes their home in every person who loves Jesus and demonstrates that love by being obedient to their teachings. Has God made His home in your heart? The word *“home”* here is the same word we looked at in John 14:2 *“mansions”* or better translated, *“room”*. Have you made room in your heart for God by believing and following His teachings? Has that room in your heart become a home for God? When He comes, He takes up permanent residence. Remember John 14:16. *“that He may abide with you forever.”* God has no plans of leaving. Are you planning on sinning? Are you planning to return to an old way of life? Remember, you have died to that life. *“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”* (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Verse 24 *“He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.”* If you love Jesus, you will keep His word, His teachings, His commands. If you do not love Jesus, you will not keep His word, His teachings, His commands. It is your choice. It is always your choice every minute of every hour of every day. You can say you love Jesus, but your actions will show God and those watching, the truth. Keep growing in your love for Jesus by learning more of what He teaches. You will gain a deeper relation with God. Jesus did not make up these teachings. They come straight from God the Father. He sent Jesus into this world. He sends us into this same world with the same message.

Questions to ask yourself: Do you love Jesus? Has God made His home in your life? Are you learning and following His commands?

Actions to take: Look at yourself. Evaluate your life in Christ. Is God satisfied with who you are and what you are doing? Is there something more God wants from you?

Contact information:

Pastor Daniel Fosnight
602-321-5629 talk or text
email: dfosnight@cox.net

Join us for worship every Sunday at:

Emmanuel Baptist Church of Sun City
12225 N. 103rd Avenue **10:00 A.M.**
Sun City, AZ 85351 **& 4:00 P.M.**

Our mailing address is: Emmanuel Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1388, Sun City, AZ 85372

Our website is ebcsuncity.com

Our mission statement: **Spread the gospel of Jesus Christ;
Teach believers to worship God; Foster growth in the Christian faith**