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**Sermon: *“The Loving Lord in the Shadow of the Cross”***

**Scripture: John 13:21-38**

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Sunday, May 13, 2018

**Introduction:**

Jesus loved His disciples to the end. Part of loving them included \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them for what was to come. A troubling betrayal, a “new” command and a sobering warning led to drama, passion and fear in the upper room:

1. **Jesus Revealed a Troubling \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Final Hour** *(v. 21-30)*

*In the unfolding drama of the upper room we find...*

1. ***The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lord.*** *(v. 21)*

***Scripture:*** *Psalm 41:7-9*

1. ***The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Disciples.*** *(v. 22-25; Mark 14:19)*
2. ***The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Betrayer.*** *(v. 26-30)*

***Judas had two paths forward prior to this moment:***

1. ***Humble Repentance leading to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*** *(2 Corinthians 7:9-10a)*
2. ***Hardened Desire leading to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*** *(2 Corinthians 7:10b; Romans 1:24; 26; 28)*

***As long as we live, we sin. As long as we sin, we must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!***

1. **Jesus Issued a New \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for His Departure.** *(v. 31-35)*

How is this a “new” command?

1. There is a new standard for love….**Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***Scripture:*** *Ephesians 5:25-28; 1 John 4:7-12*

* Christ’s love is an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ love.** *(1 John 4:7-8, 12)*
* Christ’s love is an **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ love.** *(1 John 4:10a, 11, 19)*
* Christ’s love is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ love**. *(1 John 4:9)*
* Christ’s love is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ love.** *(1 John 4:10b)*

1. There is a new community to love….**Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***Scripture:*** *Ephesians 5:2; 1 Peter 1:22*

**A love that knows no limits is to be the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ’s people in community!**

1. **Jesus Issued Sobering \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for His Beloved Follower.** *(v. 36-38)*
2. **Peter would follow the Lord in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but later.**

* The path (and cost) of discipleship is not determined by the disciple, but the Master.

1. **Peter would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Lord the next morning.**

* The self-assured will assuredly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The God-dependent will surely endure.

***Scripture:*** *Proverbs 16:18-19; 11:2; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13;**Galatians 2:20; 1 Peter 5:5-6*

**Conclusion:**

1. As believers we are to be a God-dependent & sin-repenting people, living in a community of overflowing love.

**Questions to Consider:**

1. In what ways do we witness Christ’s love in John 13?
2. What does John include in his account that captures the reality of that night? How is that helpful to us today?
3. What IS repentance and WHY do we resist it so much? What are the dangers of resisting repentance or faking it?
4. How is Christ’s example of love so much different from how we naturally love?
5. Why is Christ-like love not just about “trying harder”? What ought to motivate Christ-like love in the life of every believer?
6. How ought Jesus’ warnings to Peter cause us to assess our lives and thinking?
7. How can we seek to diminish deadly pride in our lives?