

SERIES: Gospel of John  
**The New Commandment**  
John 13:31-38

### **A Purposeful Death (13:31-32)**

- Jesus declares the cross as supreme glorification, not supreme humiliation.
  - When the world saw Jesus on the cross, they saw a **tragedy**.
  - When the church looks at the cross, we only see **triumph**.
- The greatest moment of God's displayed glory was in the shame of the cross.
  - When Jesus died, he revealed the **Father's** glory. "God is glorified in him."
  - When Jesus rose, he returned to his **former** glory. "God will glorify him in himself."

### **A Prepared Departure (13:33)**

- Jesus loves his disciples **dearly**. "Little children..."
  - Jesus cares for them like a spiritual father.
  - Jesus loves them like a spiritual family.
- Jesus speaks to his disciples **clearly**. "Where I am going, you cannot come."
  - He is not speaking about **Heaven**.
  - He is speaking about the **cross**.

### **A Passionate Devotion (13:34-35)**

- His commandment is new because of who it **imitates**. "As I have loved you."
  - We imitate **Christ**.
  - Jesus is our **pattern** as we live out his love.
    - Christian love **serves**. (John 13:15)
    - Christian love **sacrifices**. (John 15:13)
- His commandment is new because of what he **creates**. "If you have love for one another."
  - He creates the **Church**.
  - Jesus is our **power** as we live on his love.
    - Jesus loves us by abiding in the love of His Father. (John 15:9-10)
    - We love others by abiding in **Jesus**. (John 15:4, 12)

### **A Predicted Denial (13:36-38)**

- Peter's limits: We are **weaker** than we really know.
- Peter's loyalty: We are more **sinful** than we understand.
- Christ's love: God is more **gracious** than we deserve.
  - We are not saved because we lay down our life for Christ.
  - We are saved because Christ laid down his life for us.
    - Jesus did not merely die as an **example** to inspire us.
    - Jesus mainly died as a **substitute** to save us. (1 Peter 3:18)

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