

*This is my
commandment,
that you*

**LOVE ONE
ANOTHER**

*even as I have
loved you*

JOHN 15:12
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“JESUS’ LAST WORD ON GROWING A FRUIT-BEARING CHURCH”



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Introduction

- ~ Background
- ~ The Aim of Jesus’ Last Word

Message

- I. Major Points of Jesus’ Vine and Branches Metaphor (vs 1 – 8)
 - A. The Plan for Carrying on Jesus’ Earthly Mission (vs 4 – 6)
 - B. The Objective of Jesus’ Earthly Mission (vs 1-2, 5, 8)
 - C. The way/mean to achieve Jesus’ Mission Objective (vs 7)
- II. Major Points on How Jesus’ Word can abide in us – the Branches vs 9 – 15)
 - A. Commit to the Right Relationship with:
 - ✓ Jesus (vs 9-10)
 - ✓ Fellow Believers (Church Members) (vs 12a)
 - B. Commit to follow Jesus’ Way to love one another (vs 12b)
 - ✓ Sacrificially (vs 13)

(*Agapao=prize the beloved above all things; be unwilling to abandon it or do without it. Put the beloved first and sacrifice pride, self-interest and passion for the sake of the beloved)
 - ✓ As our Equal and with Transparency (vs 15)
- III. Jesus’ Final Commands
 - A. (vs 16) ...I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.
 - B. (vs 17) ... Love one another.

Exhortation

The church exists to glorify God. Like the Gardener in the John 15: 1 -8 metaphor, God planted His Spiritual Vineyard, the church, for the purpose of bearing much fruit – fruit looks like and tastes like the True Vine, Jesus as the way to reflect His glory to the world. And the first and most critical step for the body of Christ (the branches) to take is to obey and to live out Jesus’ last command “Love One Another” in vs 17.

Discussion Questions:

1. What would be a couple of major thoughts you might have gotten out of the message that could be helpful to facilitate your understanding of your role as a member of CBC? (Not looking for any specific points. It's an ice breaker.)
2. What would be some practical ways according to the teaching of the Bible we could apply in obeying Jesus' command, "Love one another"? (John 15: 12, 17)

Related Scriptures for further reading/studying

1. Read Phil 2:1-4, on what we might do, focus on vs 3.
2. Read Phil 2:5, on committing to imitate Christ's attitude of humility.
3. Read Phil 2:6-8 on Paul's vivid description of Christ's humility as a model for us to imitate.

Note:

Remember John 15 is only a part of Jesus' last conversation with the Disciples before He was crucified a day later. The entire evening's activities and conversation were recorded from John 13 and ended with Jesus' praying for Himself, the Disciples and us (yes us, who were not yet born) in John 17. One of the startling thing Jesus did to begin the evening's activities was washing His disciples' feet. (John 13:4-17). Do you think there might be a connection on what He spoke to them in John 15, especially on His command to "love one another" in John 15:12 and 17?