

# I Would Be Like Jesus

John 15:17-27

July 02, 2017

BIG IDEA—the supreme worth of the sacrifice of Jesus may be measured by the depth of love His followers show for each other and their willingness to endure persecution for His sake.

## “Love each other” like Jesus loves

1. Without limitation—is the **beginning** point, not the end
  - a. Joyful **obedience** in all things
  - b. “As I have loved you” by laying down His life **actually**
2. Love of neighbor—Matthew 22:34-40 (see Leviticus 19:18)
  - a. A church with everything except love, has **nothing** (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

Eloquent preaching  
Spiritual encouragement  
Amazing apologetics  
Miracle working faith  
Outstanding generosity  
Fearless evangelism



- b. We owe a **debt** of love to one another (Romans 13:8) YBH?\*
- c. Faith must be **expressed** in agape love (Galatians 5:6) YBH?
- d. Gospel freedom **serves** one another in love (Galatians 5:14) YBH?
- e. Doctrinal purity leads to a **deeper** love (1 Peter 1:22) YBH?
- f. Right living / believing is shown by agape love (1 John 3:10-11; 23; 4:7-8; 11-12) YBH?

\*YBH? = Yes, but how?

“The world is a society of rebels, and therefore finds it hard to tolerate those who are in joyful allegiance to the king to whom all loyalty is due.” (*The Gospel According to John*, p525)

## “Be hated by the world” like Jesus is hated

1. The reason His disciples will be hated (18-21)
  - a. Not political-socio- **cultural** -media wars
  - b. To **belong** is to be **loved**
  - c. Chosen out of the world (also 15:16 and 17:14-16)  
Separated from the world / separated unto **Christ**
  - d. “I would be like Jesus . . . **really** ?”  
Practicing humble **servanthood** (John 13:16)  
Enduring **persecution** for His name (Acts 5:41)
2. The rejection of Jesus’ **words** and works (22-25)
  - a. Hearing and watching Jesus does not change **hearts** (John 12:37-40)
  - b. Listening to and seeing the Father who sent Jesus does (John 12:44-45; also 14:9-10)
3. The **responsibility** to testify (26-27)
  - a. The Spirit of truth, He will testify about Jesus
  - b. Jesus’ disciples must also testify about Him

We cannot love one another, testify about Jesus, and endure being hated by the world without the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, the One Who Comes Alongside and Encourages us.