

# LOOKING UNTO JESUS

*Our Perfect Example of*  
**"How We Should Love Others"**

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith..."

Hebrews 12:2





## Hebrews 12:1-3 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,





## Hebrews 12:1-3 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.





Hebrews 12:1-3 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.





## Mark 10:21 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup> Then Jesus, looking at him, **loved him**, and said to him, "One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me."





## John 13:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, **having loved His own** who were in the world, **He loved them to the end.**





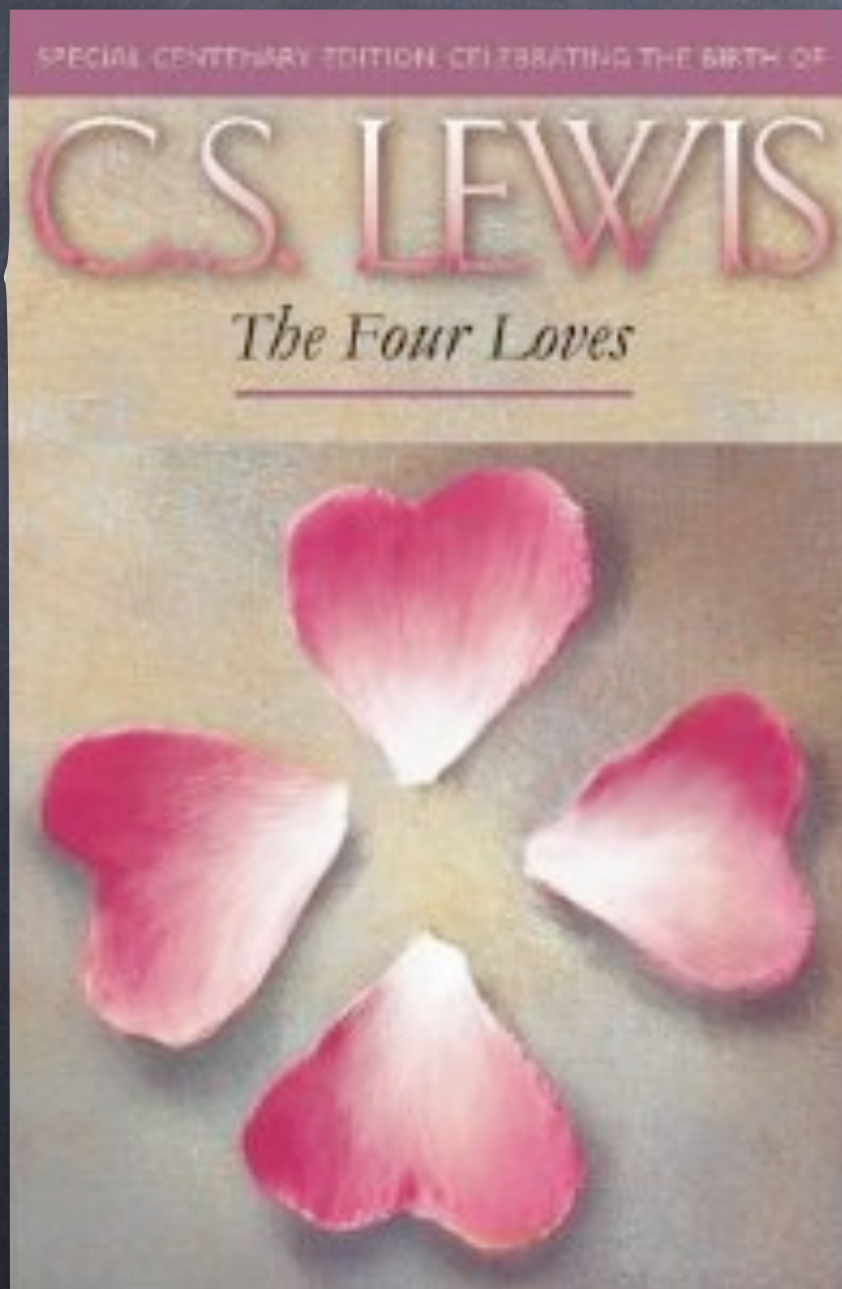
John 13:34 (NKJV)

A new commandment I give to you,  
that you love one another; as I have  
loved you, that you also love one  
another.



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## Greek Words For Love



- ✦ **Eros** – Carnal, sensual, selfish – Not used in NT
- ✦ **Stergein** – Natural love – Not used in NT
- ✦ **Phileo** – Friendly love – More nearly represents tender affection.
- ✦ **Agapao** – “Love which is awakened by a sense of value in an object which causes one to prize it . . . It is a love of esteem and approbation” (Weust). Act of the will – not emotion – (Mt. 5:43–48; Mk 12:29–31; Jn. 3:16)



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## We Love What We Value



- ✦ At the heart of Biblical love is the value placed upon the object
- ✦ The degree of value we place upon an object is equivalent to the degree of love we have for it!



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *Our Perfect Example of Love*



LIKE  
HIM

Learn to Love  
Like Jesus

- ✦ Expressed to Those Who Did Not Deserve It!! – Mark 10:21; Luke 19:41; Mat. 23:37; Rom. 5:8;
- ✦ Not Exclusive – Mat. 5:44–48; Luke 6:32–35; 23:34
- ✦ A Caring Love, – Mat 9:35–38; 15:32; Luke 7:11–15; John 11:33–35
- ✦ Concentrated Exercise of Will – Mark 1:40,41; Luke 19:10; Mat 26:39



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

*Our Perfect Example of Love*



LIKE  
HIM

Learn to Love  
Like Jesus

- ✦ Taught & Healed!! – Mat 4:23; 9:35; Mark 6:6
- ✦ Fed The Needy – Mat. 14:13–21; 15:32–39
- ✦ Did Good – Acts 10:38; John 10:32
- ✦ Went to the Cross – John 15:13; Eph 5:2; 1 John 4:7–11





## John 15:9,10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.





John 15:13 (NKJV)

Greater love has no one than  
this, than to lay down one's life  
for his friends.





Ephesians 5:25 (KJV)

Husbands, love your wives, even  
as Christ also loved the church,  
and gave himself for it;





## Revelation 1:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,  
the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over  
the kings of the earth. To Him **who loved us**  
**and washed us from our sins in His own**  
**blood,**





- ✦ Galatians 1:4 (KJV) - Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, . . .
- ✦ Titus 2:14 (KJV) - Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, . . .
- ✦ 1 Timothy 2:6 (KJV) - Who gave himself a ransom for all, . . .





## Galatians 2:20 (KJV)

<sup>20</sup> I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.





## 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died;  
<sup>15</sup> and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

*Are We Willing To Love Like Jesus Loved?*



- ✦ Jesus' Instructions To His Disciples – Jn 13:31–35; 15:9–12
- ✦ Followers of Christ Are To Have A Deep And Abiding Love For Each Other – Heb 13:1; 1 Peter 1:22
- ✦ A Test of Discipleship – 1 John 3:10,11,14–23; 4:7,8,20–5:3



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

*Are We Willing To Love Like Jesus Loved?*



- ◆ Expressing it to Those Who Do Not Deserve It!! – Mat 18:21,22; Rom 12:14,20,21
- ◆ Not Exclusively – Luke 6:27-36; Mat. 5:44-48
- ◆ A Caring Love, – 1 Jn 3:16-18
- ◆ Concentrated Exercise of Will – 1 Thes. 4:9-10; John 15:12; 1 John 3:23; 1 John 4:21



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

*Are We Willing To Love Like Jesus Loved?*



- ◆ Are we growing – equipping ourselves to teach others? – Mat. 9:37,38; Acts 8:4
- ◆ Are We Doing What We Can To Aide The Needy – Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim 6:18
- ◆ Doing Good – Mat. 25:34–36; Titus 2:14; 3:1
- ◆ Give Ourselves – 1 Jn 3:16,17



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NKJV)

<sup>4</sup> Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; <sup>5</sup> does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; <sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; <sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails. . . .





# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love



1 Corinthians 13:4  
(NKJV)

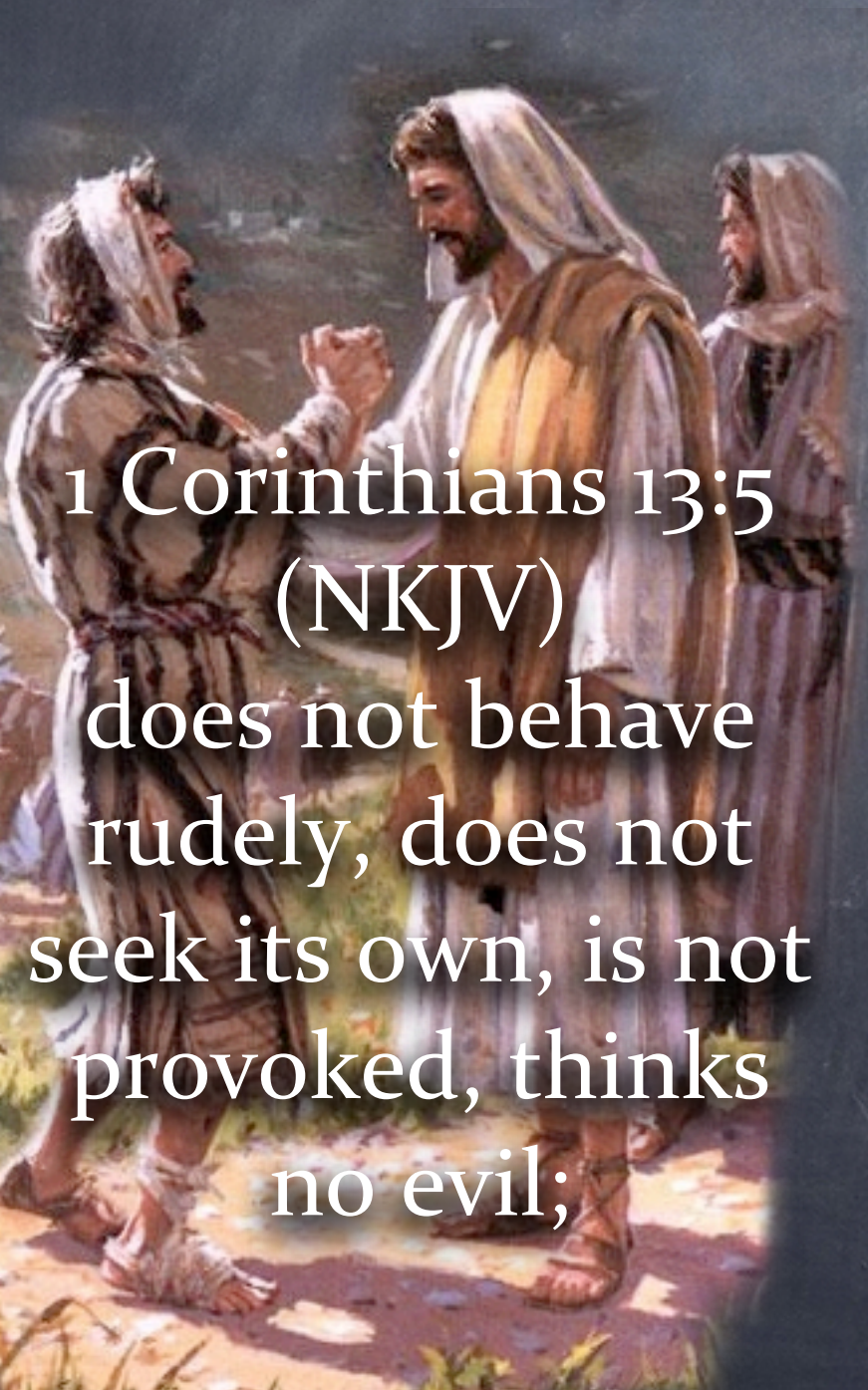
4 Love suffers long  
*and* is kind; love  
does not envy; love  
does not parade  
itself, is not puffed  
up;

- ✦ **"Suffers long"** – Not quick to punish or retaliate wrongs incurred – associated with mercy.
- ✦ **"Is kind"** – sympathetic sweetness of temper, rendering good instead of pain.
- ✦ **Is not jealous, is not boastful or arrogant** – but is meek and humble.



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love



1 Corinthians 13:5  
(NKJV)

does not behave  
rudely, does not  
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no evil;

- ✦ **"Does not behave rudely"** – love always conducts itself with proper decorum – arrogance treats others with contempt.
- ✦ **"Is not selfish"** – but rather a genuine concern for the well being of other people.
- ✦ **"Not provoked"** – Love does NOT go around with a chip on its shoulder.
- ✦ **"Thinks no evil"** – Love does not dwell on evils it has incurred – (evil is fertile soil for bitterness and resentment)



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love



1 Corinthians 13:6-7  
(NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

<sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

### ✦ **Love does not rejoice in iniquity –**

✦ Love finds NO pleasure in hearing of the moral weakness of another – love realizes the high "cost" of sin. Sin hurts the sinner & all who love them. (Romans 6:23)

✦ Love never encourages someone in wrong-doing – love does not tempt another to do evil or act in ways that would cause another to do evil. (Romans 1:32; 14:13–15)



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## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love



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### ✦ **Love rejoices in the truth** –

- ✦ 'Christian love has no wish to veil the truth; it is brave enough to face the truth.' (Barclay p. 137)
- ✦ Love is never ashamed of the truth. (Romans 1:16) Love will speak the truth, in the most difficult of situations. (Eph. 4:15; 2 Tim. 2:2)
- ✦ Love rejoices when the truth is obeyed, returned to, propagated . . .



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love



1 Corinthians 13:6-7  
(NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

<sup>7</sup> bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

- ✦ **"Bears all things"** – To remain steady under trial, to hold another up – OR to conceal or hide – 1 Pet 4:8.
- ✦ **"Believes all things"** – wants to believe the best until evidence proves otherwise – considers all evidence.
- ✦ **"Hopes all things"** – When evidence is adverse – love still hopes for the best.
- ✦ **"Endures all things"** – loves sticks it out . . . It doesn't quit under adverse circumstances.



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## *A Closer Look At* The Character of Love

### Colossians 3:12-14 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **put on** tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. <sup>14</sup> **But above all these things put on love**, which is the bond of perfection.







## **Romans 8:35-39 (NKJV)**

<sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from **the love of Christ?** . . . <sup>37</sup>

Yet in all these things we are **more than conquerors through Him who loved us.** <sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

## Love Is

- ✦ **A Conscious Decision - ("put on love") - Cannot be forced - an act of the will - Co 3:14**
- ✦ **Expressed towards the Father & Son in obedience - John 14:15,21; 1 John 5:2,3**
- ✦ **To Be Constant - ("walk in love") - Ep 5:2**
- ✦ **To Be Our Motive - ("serve from love") - 1 Co 16:14; Ga 5:13**
- ✦ **To Be Our Glue - ("knit together in love") - Co 2:2; 3:14; 1 Cor. 8:1**



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

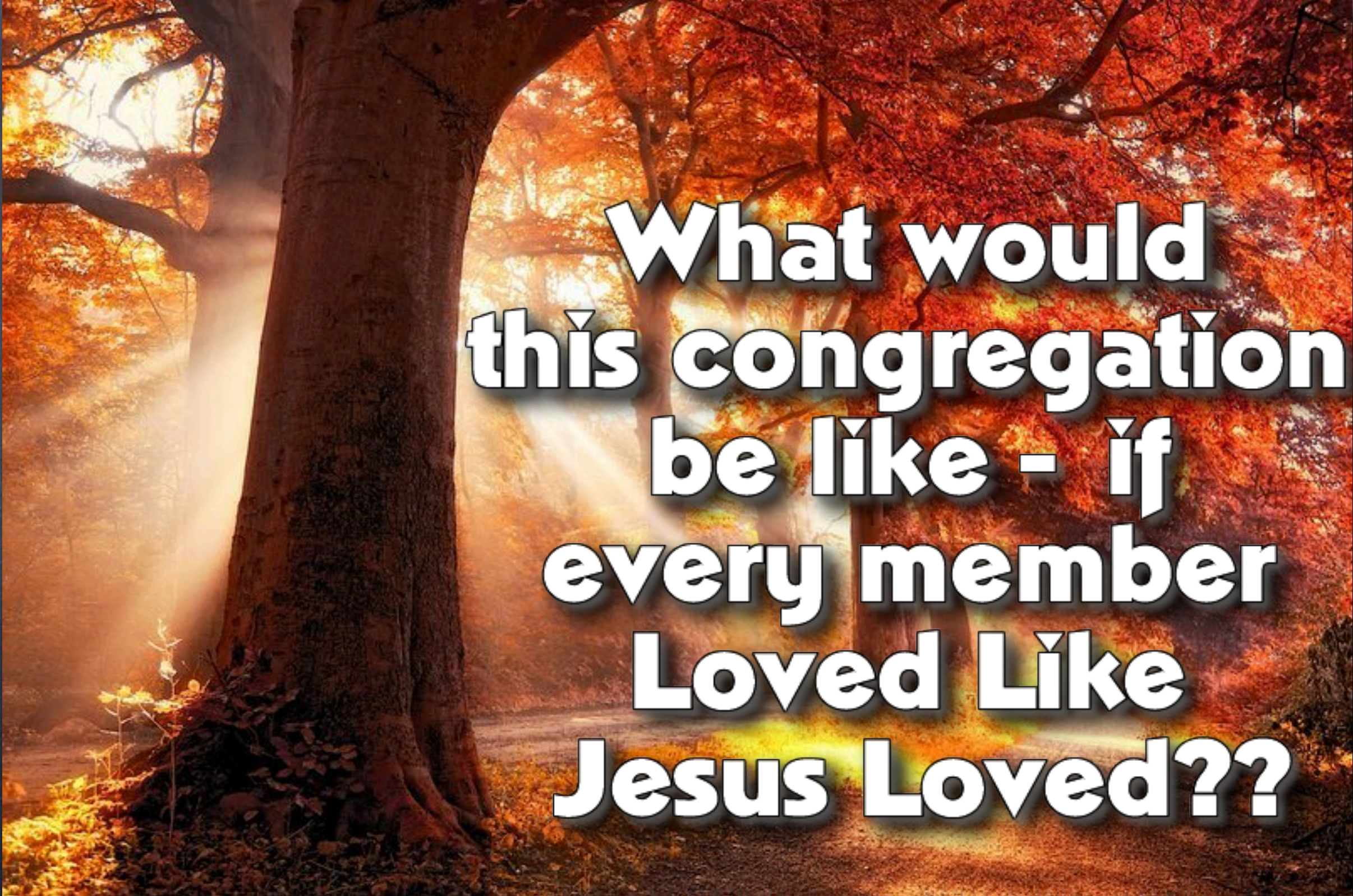
**Jesus' Love For Us Was**

- ◆ Undeserved
- ◆ Self-Less
- ◆ Sacrificial
- ◆ Active
- ◆ Heart Felt
- ◆ REAL!!

**“Are We  
Willing  
To Love  
Like Jesus  
Loved?”**



# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

A photograph of a forest with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of orange, red, and yellow. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a warm, glowing atmosphere. A large tree trunk is visible on the left side of the frame.

**What would  
this congregation  
be like - if  
every member  
Loved Like  
Jesus Loved??**







# LOOKING *unto* JESUS

*Are We Willing To Love Like Jesus Loved?*

## **Charts by Don McClain**

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## **Colossians 3:12-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.



## **Colossians 3:12-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>14</sup> But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.



## **Colossians 3:12-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.