

Reflections
Part I; February 10, 2019

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”
– John 13:34-35 (NLT)

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.
– Ephesians 5:1-2 (NLT)

“Loving Like Jesus”

It’s loving yourself.

Jesus replied, “The most important commandment is this: ‘Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’ **The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’** No other commandment is greater than these.”
– Mark 12:29-31 (NLT)

It’s loving the ones you don’t want to love.

“You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven... **If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else?**” – Matthew 5:43-47 (NLT)

**It’s loving with our actions
and not just our intentions.**

“Don’t use foul or abusive language. **Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.**”
– Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)

“Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.”
– 1 John 3:18 (NLT)

It’s loving people who need love the most.

People who have the least.

People who are the loneliest.

People who are the most deeply hurt.