



The Greatest Love of All

John 15:9-17

Remain in My love (?)



John 15:9

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now **REMAIN IN MY LOVE.**

How to remain in Christ's love



How to remain in Christ's love



v.10

If you keep MY COMMANDS, you will remain in MY LOVE, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.

Our tendency is to...



- Interpret terms outside of their context

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- Interpret terms outside of their context
- Introduce thoughts foreign to the context
- Not read the entire passage
- Walk away with a totally opposite idea

What are Christ's commands?



v.12

MY COMMAND is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

How to love each other



v.13

Greater love has no one than this: to LAY DOWN one's life for one's friends.

Christ's definition



To love each other = To lay down one's life for the other

Christ's example



And this is the **GREATEST LOVE OF ALL**

- He washed his disciples' feet

Christ's example



And this is the **GREATEST LOVE OF ALL**

- He washed his disciples' feet
- He died for all of his disciples

Christ's example



And this is the **GREATEST LOVE OF ALL**

- He washed his disciples' feet
- He died for all of his disciples
- He entrusted Mary and John to each other

Examples from the NT church



- Acts 2 - Believers provided for the needy among them (based on manna-communion principle)

Examples from the NT church



- Acts 2 - Believers provided for the needy among them (based on manna-communion principle)
- Rom. 12 - Spiritual gifts used to serve each other

Benefit #1 - Complete Joy



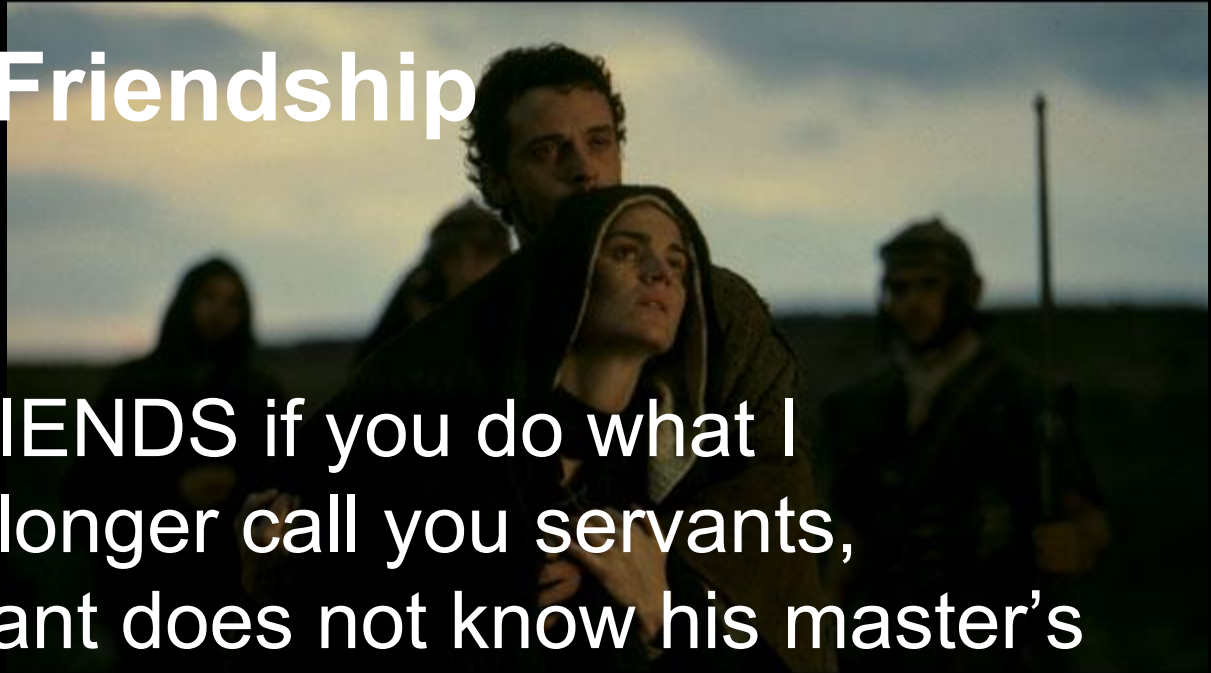
v.11

I have told you this so that MY JOY may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Benefit #2 - Friendship

v.14-15

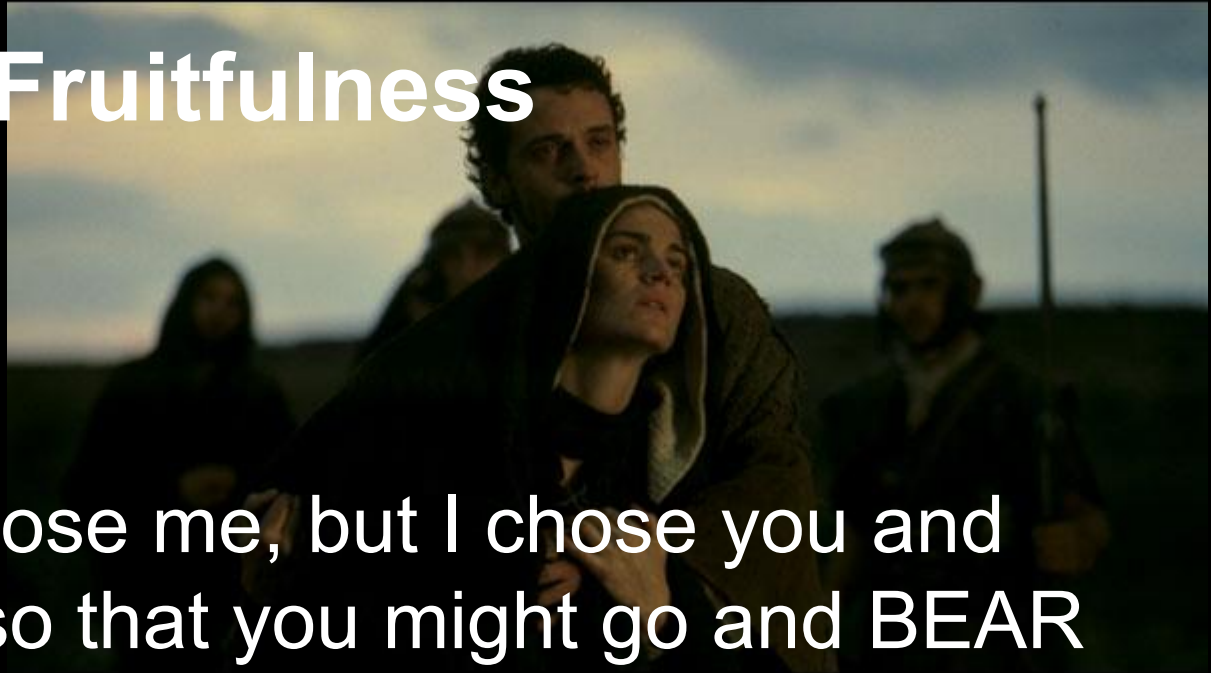
You are MY FRIENDS if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.



Benefit #3 - Fruitfulness

v.16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and BEAR FRUIT—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.



In case you didn't get it...



v.17

This is MY COMMAND: Love each other.

What this means for us



Everything we do in our lives must be an act of loving each other:

- In our families

What this means for us



Everything we do in our lives must be an act of loving each other:

- In our families
- In the church

What this means for us



Everything we do in our lives must be an act of loving each other:

- In our families
- In the church
 - how we treat each other - with respect and humility

What this means for us

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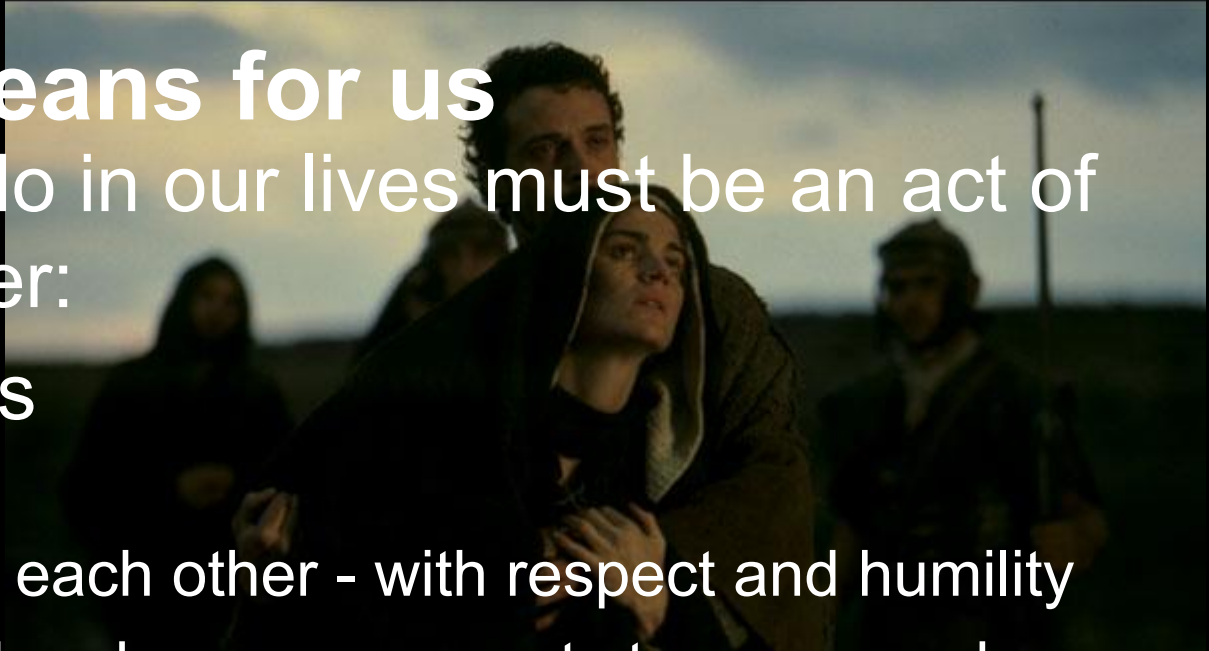
- In our families
- In the church
 - how we treat each other - with respect and humility
 - how we do church - everyone gets to serve each other



What this means for us

Everything we do in our lives must be an act of loving each other:

- In our families
- In the church
 - how we treat each other - with respect and humility
 - how we do church - everyone gets to serve each other
 - how we structure church - no one is better than the rest





The Greatest Love of All

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

John 15:13, NIV