

Refrigerator Notes 24 April 2016
What is this thing we must do for 'One Another'?
John 13:31-35

1. It is v.34 that outlines what we must do
2. This thing we must do for ONE Another is encompassed in this pericope
3. It's a new command which Jesus gives His disciples which is encompassed in the second greatest commandment that Jesus gave – 'love thy neighbor'
4. Before the term Christian was used, the members of the church were referred to as Saints.
5. Thus, we are required to love each other as a Saint
6. The bible outlines in love as being defined as ergo, phyla and agape where agape love is the pinnacle (highest form) of love
7. But one cannot love in a phyla (brotherly) or agape (unconditional) manner unless one is willing to forgive - one another
8. Ergo (erotic) which is both a noun and verb is not fulfilling and will leave one empty, drained and open to lust
9. Saints are called to love one another, even if it drains us, we are called to continue to fill the cup of love back up
10. The same cup that is filled with love must be poured out with forgiveness, we are called to forgive Saints as Jesus has forgiven us, time after time and day after day
11. Why? Because of love
12. Jesus Himself said, that no one shows greater love than by laying down their life for one another.
13. In other words, when we give up what we hold most dear (our lives) for another person, with no thought or hope of reward, from that person in return
14. The true meaning of forgiveness has NO sense of "reconciliation", it keeps no record of wrong doing
15. [Isaiah 43:25 NIV] "Blotting out" transgression is a euphemism for FORGIVENESS. God will simply "erase" your sins, which Jesus does out of love
16. Forgiven is not for another, but for our sake – it keeps no record or holds a grudge
17. Forgiveness takes back your life and keeps you from sinning against one another and it relinquishes control that another has over another
18. "Love one another, just as I have loved you". Followed by "Greater love has no one than this that he lay down his life for his friends." To love in the way that Jesus exemplified is a pretty tall order, involving pouring ourselves out in love until the cup is empty. Or, as John the Baptizer said of Jesus, "He must increase, but I must decrease"
19. Christian membership in the church is about church membership is about loving, sacrificing, giving, and forgiving. If you cannot do those four things, then how can you seek the face of God?