

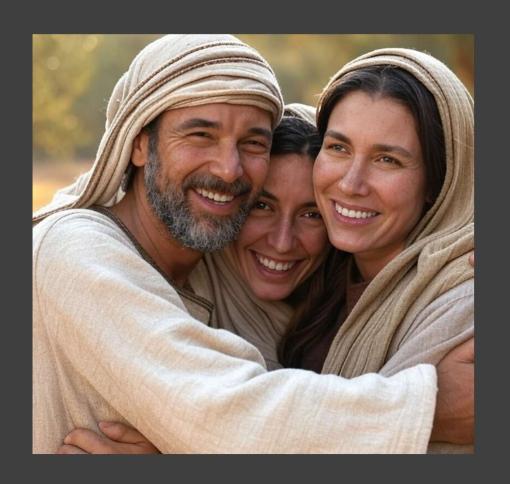


Jesus Loved a Rich Young Ruler

Jesus Loved a Rich Young Ruler

- The young man seemed conscientious
 - Asked a salvation question (Mark 10:17)
 - Received an answer that excited him (18-20)
- A crux in the conversation (21)
 - God will never share loyalty with a rival (21b)
- Jesus' love pushed the young man toward maturity
 - Sadly, the young man pushed that love away





Jesus Loved Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Jesus Loved Martha, Mary, & Lazarus

- The sisters desired the help of a powerful Friend (John 11:1-3)
 - Specifically, they call attention to the Lord's friendship with Lazarus
 - Jesus had a seemingly strange response
 - Denied the sickness would lead to death, though Lazarus would die
 - Said the purpose would be for glorification
 - John notes that He loved the three of them (5)
 - "So" He waited two days to leave (6)



Jesus Loved Martha, Mary, & Lazarus

- Love, at first, did not appear as love
 - Both sisters express disappointment with Jesus (21,32)
 - Both saw the glory of God
 - Martha in her understanding (22-27)
 - Mary in seeing the result of those around her (45)
 - Though they wanted a friend, Jesus knew they needed a Savior
 - Temporary pain eternal understanding



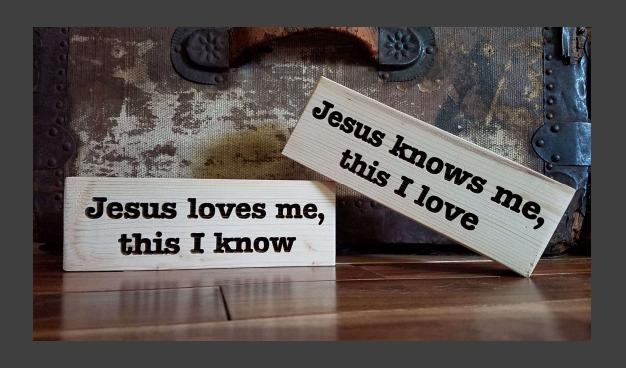


Jesus Loved His Disciples

Jesus Loved His Disciples

- A love that did not cease (John 13:1)
 - Prelude to what was coming (15:13)
 - "To the end" final breath and ultimate fulfillment
- What was expected on this final evening together?
 - Not the washing of feet
 - Jesus demonstrated servanthood to the very end





- His love, at first, may not seem loving
 - Like the young ruler, there are things that can become our gods
 - To this, Jesus speaks frankly
 - Family and comfort cannot take the place of our cross
 - His friendship brings a change of perspective

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me – Matthew 10:37-38



- His love, at first, may not seem loving
 - Like the young ruler, there are things that can become our gods
 - To this, Jesus speaks frankly
 - Family and comfort cannot take the place of our cross
 - His friendship brings a change of perspective

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Matthew 6:19-21



- His love, at first, may seem like He is not listening
 - Martha and Mary knew He could help; thought He did not listen
 - This is one of the most difficult things about prayer
 - Sometimes, like Martha and Mary, we may see a prayer fulfilled
 - Sometimes an "unanswered prayer" may be for God's glory
 - We may or may not see the good result in another

But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." – John 11:4



- His love, at first, may call for unexpected action
 - The apostles were to imitate their Servant King
 - This Servant King expects us to be servant and friend to others
 - The Lord washed the feet of His creation, including His betrayer
 - We must never consider ourselves too "good" to serve

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven – Matthew 5:16



- His love always pushes us toward spiritual maturity
 - A true friend pushes us to better things
 - Jesus' love is preparing us for eternity
 - It may not always seem friendly, but it is the action of the Best Friend

For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee — II Corinthians 5:2-5



Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends
-- John 15:13

