

## COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

### ③ Re-Think of Gospel

#### INTRODUCTION | Love : A new commandment

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Jesus gives us a new guiding principle to our lives. This principle is mutual love. When this becomes realized we come to know some of the depth of God's greatness and this changes our everyday experience such that we can accept who and what we are. In today's scripture passage we can see Jesus manifest God's glory through His humbling himself, the meaning of God's new commandment of love and finally the Jesus' prophecy concerning Peter's denial.

#### SCRIPTURE | John 13:31-38

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31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. 32 If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. 33 Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." 36 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." 37 Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." 38 Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

#### QUESTIONS |

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- 1: (31-32) Here, Jesus once again emphasizes both the glory of God the Father and the son of man (himself). How did he show that glory here? As you think of God's glory from this passage how does this scripture passage change or develop your understanding?
- 2: God's glory comes through the betrayal of Judas, Jesus' own suffering and the cross. Accordingly, as we reflect on our own pain, suffering and sadness how do you think you can accept these?
- 3: (34-35) Even though love is discussed and taught in the Old Testament in this scripture passage Jesus gives his disciples a "new commandment" which is to love one another. Of Jesus' teaching on love, what is the new point? Consider this question from the perspective of Jesus' washing of the disciples feet and his exemplary life. (Ref Leviticus 19:18)
- 4: For yourself, is the commandment to love one another difficult? Discuss with each other how to get over these points of difficulty (Ref Philippians 2:3-4).
- 5: (36-38) In these verses Jesus prophesies Peter's denial of him. What do you think of Peter as you hear this shocking statement from Jesus? What would you have thought?
- 6: What was the possibility of Peter's reaction to hearing Jesus prophecy this betrayal and denial? What do we learn from this passage about faith?

#### REFERENCES |

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### **Leviticus 19:18**

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

### **Philippians 2:3-4**

3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

### **PRAYER |**

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- Jesus we praise you for how you display and reveal God's love and mercy. Accordingly, God not only justice in relation to us but also is with us in the sadness, pain and sin of this life.
- That same pride and weakness that was prophesied in Peter is also a reality in our lives. We confess and recognize our weakness and sin. May we live in light of Christ's example and through the power of the Spirit increase in love for one another.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week**

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- 1) Lunch time meeting: Kasumigaseki Sep 2nd
- 2) Obento Project Sep 5th
- 3) Grace Kids Meeting Sep 6th
- 4) Community a Group Leaders Meeting Sep 7
- 5) Lunch Time Meeting Marunouchi Sep 9th, Otemachi 10th
- 6) Worship location change, Sep 13th at Nihonbashi Hamacho F-tower