



Leader

5/31 - John 8:12; 21-24; 31-32

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week? Any new life updates? How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- *External*: Practically, is there any individual or family that needs encouragement from us as a group?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[Dialogue]

2. Let's read our primary texts. How do these three passages together paint a picture of who Jesus is and what he demands?

Together, they show Jesus as the divine light of the world, the exclusive way of salvation, and the source of liberating truth. He demands faith in his identity (v. 24), following him as Lord (v. 12), and abiding in his word as a lifelong disciple (v. 31). He is not merely a moral teacher but the divine Son of God who requires a total response.

3. In John 8:21, Jesus says, "You will seek me, and you will die in your sin." Why is this a serious warning?

Jesus is warning of the deadly consequence of rejecting him. To die "in your sin" means to face judgment without forgiveness, separated from God eternally. It is a sobering word of grace, urging listeners to respond now before the opportunity passes.

4. What does Jesus mean in John 8:23 when he says, "You are from below; I am from above"?

Jesus draws a sharp contrast between his divine origin and human fallenness. His opponents belong to the realm of this sinful, broken world; Jesus comes from the Father in heaven. This explains why they cannot understand or receive his words. They operate from a fundamentally different nature and kingdom.

5. The phrase "I am he" in John 8:24 echoes God's self-disclosure in the Old Testament (cf. Isaiah 43:10). What does this connection tell us about Jesus?

Jesus is intentionally identifying himself with Yahweh, the God of Israel. He is not merely a prophet or teacher but the eternal God in the flesh. This connection confirms his full divinity and gives ultimate weight to his words. His promises and warnings carry the authority of God himself.

6. In John 8:31, Jesus says, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples." What is the difference between a superficial believer and a true disciple according to this verse?

A true disciple is marked by continued, settled abiding in Jesus's word, not a fleeting interest or surface-level agreement. The word "abide" suggests ongoing commitment, trust, and obedience. Superficial believers may respond initially but do not continue; true disciples remain and are shaped by Christ's teaching over time.

7. What does Jesus promise to those who abide in his word in John 8:32, and how does knowing the truth set someone free?

Jesus promises, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." This freedom is not necessarily political or social...but spiritual; freedom from the power and penalty of sin. Knowing the truth means knowing Jesus himself (John 14:6), whose gospel liberates people from sin's bondage and Satan's deception.

8. Any other thoughts you would like to share before we wrap up this text?

[Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION / PRAYER

As we end our "May Missions" emphasis, take a few minutes to review our missions prayer guide at warrenmissions.com. Select a few of these ministries and spend some time praying over them.

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible Commentary
- GotQuestions.org
- Multiple AI Resources