

Introduction: Taking Jesus seriously

³¹Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you abide in My word, (then) you are truly disciples of Mine;³² and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

John 8:31-32

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me: and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him.”

John 14:21

²⁴“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock....²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

Matthew 7:24, 26

Taking Jesus seriously means we take His _____ seriously!

So . . .

W.D.J.S.?

³⁴ “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13:34-35

- What is the New Commandment?
- When was the New Commandment given?
- Why was the New Commandment given?
- How seriously did the early Church take the New Commandment?

Our Challenge?

To take Jesus' words _____, “to _____ one another.”

- Why is this so critical?
- What Does this mean for **you**?

Discussion Questions:

1. According to Jesus, how seriously did/does He expect His followers to take His Words? Explain.
2. What is the difference between the old commandments and this new command?
3. Why do you think Jesus only gave one new commandment? Why this one?
4. What would the church look like if we all took this new commandment as seriously as the early church did?
5. What will "taking seriously" John 13:34 look like in your personal life **this week**?