

HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE?
PASTOR VERNIE FLETCHER
MARCH 25TH, 2012

MATTHEW 20:17-28 (NIV)

^[17] NOW AS JESUS WAS GOING UP TO JERUSALEM, HE TOOK THE TWELVE DISCIPLES ASIDE AND SAID TO THEM....

^[18] "WE ARE GOING UP TO JERUSALEM, AND THE SON OF MAN WILL BE BETRAYED TO THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. THEY WILL CONDEMN HIM TO DEATH...

^[19] ...AND WILL TURN HIM OVER TO THE GENTILES TO BE MOCKED AND FLOGGED AND CRUCIFIED. ON THE THIRD DAY HE WILL BE RAISED TO LIFE!"

^[20] THEN THE MOTHER OF ZEBEDEE'S SONS CAME TO JESUS WITH HER SONS AND, KNEELING DOWN, ASKED A FAVOR OF HIM.

^[21] "WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?" HE ASKED. SHE SAID, "GRANT THAT ONE OF THESE TWO SONS OF MINE MAY SIT AT YOUR RIGHT AND THE OTHER AT YOUR LEFT IN YOUR KINGDOM."

^[22] "YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE ASKING," JESUS SAID TO THEM. "CAN YOU DRINK THE CUP I AM GOING TO DRINK?" "WE CAN," THEY ANSWERED.

^[23] JESUS SAID TO THEM, "YOU WILL INDEED DRINK FROM MY CUP, BUT TO SIT AT MY RIGHT OR LEFT IS NOT FOR ME TO GRANT. THESE PLACES BELONG TO THOSE FOR WHOM THEY HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY MY FATHER."

^[24] WHEN THE TEN HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WERE INDIGNANT WITH THE TWO BROTHERS.

^[25] JESUS CALLED THEM TOGETHER AND SAID, "YOU KNOW THAT THE RULERS OF THE GENTILES LORD IT OVER THEM, AND THEIR HIGH OFFICIALS EXERCISE AUTHORITY OVER THEM.

^[26] NOT SO WITH YOU. INSTEAD, WHOEVER WANTS TO BECOME GREAT AMONG YOU MUST BE YOUR SERVANT...

^[27] ...AND WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST MUST BE YOUR SLAVE—

^[28] ...JUST AS THE SON OF MAN DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED, BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY."

JOHN 13:4-5 (NIV)

^[4] ...SO HE GOT UP FROM THE MEAL, TOOK OFF HIS OUTER CLOTHING, AND WRAPPED A TOWEL AROUND HIS WAIST.

^[5] AFTER THAT, HE Poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

GALATIANS 5:13-14 (NIV)

^[13] YOU, MY BROTHERS, WERE CALLED TO BE FREE. BUT DO NOT USE YOUR FREEDOM TO INDULGE THE SINFUL NATURE; RATHER, SERVE ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE.

^[14] THE ENTIRE LAW IS SUMMED UP IN A SINGLE COMMAND: "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

MATTHEW 25:37-40 (NIV)

^[37] "THEN THE RIGHTEOUS WILL ANSWER HIM, 'LORD, WHEN DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY AND FEED YOU, OR THIRSTY AND GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK?

^[38] WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER AND INVITE YOU IN, OR NEEDING CLOTHES AND CLOTHE YOU?

^[39] WHEN DID WE SEE YOU SICK OR IN PRISON AND GO TO VISIT YOU?'

^[40] THE KING WILL REPLY, 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.'