

A Vision for Disciplemaking
Key Men's Conference

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Christ Our Life
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Introduction - Three Ministry Lessons I Have Learned

- *The pattern for all our plans and strategies is Jesus Christ - Mark 7:7-9*
- *Learn What Are Your Responsibilities and What Are God's*
- *Focus on a Vision of God, Not a Ministry Strategy- God Himself Will Teach You to Love One Another - I Thess4:9*

I. Why Did New Testament Men & Women Want to Follow Jesus?

Whenever Jesus spoke, people felt the love of God flowing through Him.

I Corinthians 13 (NLB):

If I could speak in any language in heaven or on earth but didn't love others, I would only be making meaningless noise like a loud gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I knew all the mysteries of the future and knew everything about everything, but didn't love others, what good would I be?

And if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, without love I would be no good to anybody.

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would be of no value whatsoever.

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude.

Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged.

It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.

Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

Love will last forever, but prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will all disappear.

Now we know only a little, and even the gift of prophecy reveals little! But when the end comes, these special gifts will all disappear.

It's like this: When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child does. But when I grew up, I put away childish things.

Now we see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity.

All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God knows me now.

There are three things that will endure--faith, hope, and love--and the greatest of these is love.

II. Three Things God Blesses

1. His Word – Isaiah 55:11
2. Spiritual Gifts – Romans 11:29
3. Your Life