

## Communion Meditation – Final Admonitions

John 15.9-17

“The Father’s Love”

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Abiding Near God

- Abide was dominant theme in **vss 1 thru 8** / In **vss 9 & 10** but fading
  - Emphasis now turns to love and **vss 9 & 10** connect the two
- **!!!**: Child forced to hold a parent’s hand – parking lot, mall, danger
  - The child often doesn’t appreciate this / Can pull away abruptly
  - They do so at their peril / We do too / And we miss out on joy

### Love, Love, Love ~ All You Need is Love

- “**Love**” occurs 9 times in our text / Occurs as both verb and noun
  - Father loving Jesus / Jesus loving them / Them loving one another
- **v10** ~ Note the conditional phrases here and in **v13 & v14**
  - This is not “**earning**” love / It’s “**demonstrating**” love
- **v13** ~ Self-sacrificial love / **!!!**: Kingdom attacked ~ 3 soldiers called in
  - Many kings not worthy of such love / But our King is . . .
  - Jesus died to redeem us / But it was in obedience to His Father
- **v14** ~ “**if**” / This seems harsh like a harsh definition of friendship
  - But Jesus had just given the definition of the “**greatest love**”
  - He will soon demonstrate it / And He expects them to as well

### Friends, not Just Servants

- **v15** ~ He redefines their relationship because of this
- **v16** ~ He also reassures them by saying that He chose them
  - And appointed them to bear fruit
- **v17** ~ He also requires they love one another as they love God
  - This is so much harder
  - We love a perfect God / Even if we don’t understand Him fully
  - But we must also love imperfect people / People that sin against us

**Jesus commanded us to abide in Him / That alone leads to fullness of joy**  
**We must love one another / Follow His example by living selflessly / sacrificially**  
**Doing this will make us fruitful and fill out with joy . . .**