

Discussion and Reflection Questions

4th Sunday of Easter - 3rd of May 2026

Read: John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Questions

1. What does it practically mean to “abide” in Jesus’ love? How might this connect to experiencing fullness of life?
2. v10-11 suggests obedience leading to joy. How can something that seems restricting lead to something life giving?
3. Our joy is complete (v11) when Jesus’ joy is in us. How does this contrast with the joy the world tells us we can experience?
4. How is Jesus’ command to love (v12) both unique & challenging?
5. What might “laying down your life” look like in everyday discipleship (not just in extreme situations)?
6. How does knowing God’s heart (v15) and purposes contribute to a richer, fuller life?
7. How does being chosen by Jesus shape identity and purpose? How might this relate to living a full life?

Prayer

God of love, You have loved us from the beginning and call us to love one another: pour your love into our hearts, that we may be made whole in Christ and live in joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.