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# BIBLE TALK

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This week the question is: **When two people love the Lord, will they love each other?**

To answer this question, just listen to the following passages of scripture:

**John 13:34**

<sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

**John 15:12**

<sup>12</sup> This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**John 15:17**

<sup>17</sup> These things I command you, that you love one another.

**1 John 3:11**

<sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

**1 John 4:11**

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

**1 John 4:20**

<sup>20</sup> If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

This should be enough to convince anyone with an open mind. The answer to the question is "yes" – if two people both love the Lord, they will love one another as well.

This brings up some interesting conclusions:

- If a husband and wife both love the Lord, they will love each other too. If they get a divorce, then one of the other does not really love the Lord.

- If Muslims and Christians fight and kill each other, then one of the other does not really love the Lord. Both Christians and Muslims claim they believe the Lord was a good person and both agree the Lord was at least a prophet. However, both cannot love the Lord if they hate each other.

As a matter of fact, if a Christian loves the Lord, he will love even his enemies, for here's what the Lord said:

**Matthew 5:43-47**

<sup>43</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

<sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

<sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?

One final point about love: If a person loves the Lord, he will keep the Lord's commandments:

**John 14:15**

<sup>15</sup> “If you love Me, keep My commandments.

This means even those commandments which seem to be trivial and nonsensical. The Lord did not ask us to become judges of His law. He asked us to obey His commands – including those commands which seem trivial to many – including baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), women remaining silent in the services of the church (1 Cor 14:34), a cappella singing (Eph 5:19), one loaf and one cup in the weekly communion (1 Cor 11:23-25).

Do you love the Lord? Is it obvious from your life?

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Call again next week when we consider a new subject on **Bible Talk**.