



By Andy Stanley

**Session 5 – “What Love Requires”
(Chapters 15 - 20)
February 5, 2023**

Opening Prayer

Opening Statement/Question...

As the hinge between covenants, Jesus’ mission was to lay the groundwork for the transition from old to new. Summarizing the entire Jewish law with two existing laws wasn’t just genius, it was strategic. Just as the old covenant included laws for the nation to live by, so Jesus’ new covenant would include instructions for his followers to live by as well. But his list wouldn’t be engraved on stone tablets. It would be engraved in the hearts, minds, and consciences of his followers. The rules and regulations associated with Jesus’ new covenant could easily be committed to memory. The reason being, they weren’t a *they*. They were an *it*.

What do you think?

**Session 5 Video...
(Notes Section)**

- Jesus’ new command...

- Love that’s anchored in a person...

- **Believing versus doing...**
- **Leveraging not power, but example...**
- **Less complicated, more demanding...**
- **An answer to “why” without an eye to the sky...**

Follow Up Questions...

- 1. What did you think of this week’s video segment? Compelling? Convicting? Either, neither, or both?**
- 2. Andy said, “Jesus wasn’t commanding his followers to *feel* something. He was commanding them to *do* something.” What do you make of this remark? Can you “do” love without first “feeling” love?**

3. You could say that the big shift in Jesus' "new" commandment was from the perspective of selfishness to that of selflessness, from that of *self* to that of *Christ*. The Golden Rule, which summed up the Law, the old covenant way of life, stated, "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you," (Matthew 7:12). The "Platinum Rule" as Andy calls it, states, "Love each other as *I* have loved you," (John 15:12). Why was such a shift necessary for God to accomplish his redemptive plan?

4. Think back on your own spiritual journey. How would you put into words the love you've received from Christ? What shape has divine love taken in your mind and heart and life?

5. What differences do you think Jesus expects his love to make in and through your life?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS...

1. Matthew 7:7-12

2. John 15:9-17

What is the difference between the two?

Jesus' love *for* you, not his authority *over* you, is what he leverages to inspire you.

- Andy Stanley

"Irresistible" Session 6 – Sunday, February 26 4:00 PM
(Covers Intro to Section 4 and Chapters 21 - 24)
