

**Leviticus 19:9-18:**

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the Lord your God. You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord. You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning. You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the Lord. You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

**John 15:12-17:**

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.



Love &amp; Unity

Loving the Church: Our Distinctive (John 13:34-35)

Pastor Martell Sánchez

1. Leviticus 19:9-18 helps us understand that God's people are called to love all people—even those outside the church—as themselves. Why can it be harder, sometimes, to love the people *in the church*?
2. In this week's sermon, we saw Jesus claim that everyone would know who follows him based on the unifying love shared among his followers (John 13:35). Why would loving one another—within the church—help the world see we really follow Christ? In other words, why does love and unity among Christians distinguish the church from the rest of society?
3. What are some ways the church can express love for one another? Have you ever experienced doing or receiving any of these expressions of Christian love? What was the outcome?
4. How should Christ's words in John 13:34-35 guide our actions and attitudes going forward?