



# Sermon Growth Guide

**March 21, 2021**

**To Give His Life - Greater Love**

**John 15:1-13**

**Key Verse:** John 15:13

“Greater love has no one than this; to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

**Big Idea:** Until we grasp Jesus’ love for us, we can’t truly love anyone else with God’s love.

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## Foundations

Can anyone agree on what true love really is?

Is the height of love a feeling? If I feel positively toward someone, have I arrived at the height of love?

Is the height of love a promise? If I tell someone I’ll be there for them no matter what, have I arrived at the height of love?

Or is the height of love an action? If I lay down my life for the good of another, have I arrived at the height of love?

In John 15:13, Jesus tells us that “Greater love has no one than this; to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” When we consider that Jesus knew He was about to give His life away for “the life of the world,” this passage deepens in its meaning.

Ponder how this instruction to live sacrificially for others clarifies in direction with other words of Christ: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,” (Matthew 6:33).

What is the height of love? The height of love is sacrificial action, completely unconcerned with one’s own temporal self-preservation, with the kingdom of God and the righteousness of God as the lens by which action is carried out.

## Understanding God’s Word

According to John 15:1-2: What happens to one who does not bear fruit?

What happens to one who does bear fruit?

How does one bear fruit?

According to verse 11, what purpose does Jesus give for saying these things?

What command does Jesus give us in verse 12 and how is it defined in verse 13?

## Applying God’s Word

God is reconciling the world to Himself through His people laying themselves down for the inbreaking of the salvation of the Lord. Until we grasp Jesus’ love for us, we can’t truly love anyone else with God’s love.

How might you abide in the love of Christ more consistently, more authentically, so that you come to cherish every opportunity to live for God and God alone?

## Witnessing God’s Word

Who can you sacrificially move toward this week with the love of Christ? What tangible action do you anticipate will be needed?