



5/19/19 John 13: 31-35 & Acts 14: 21-27

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TERING THE SCENE:

One of the mysteries of life is that one way of life seems to die in order for a new and higher form of life can begin. It is only after the caterpillar leaves the cocoon that it can fly and see that what it was, would only be preparation for what will be. It is little wonder that the poor disciples felt like the caterpillars, as Jesus soared above them as a beautiful butterfly. Jesus' faith in the Resurrection overcame all his reluctance to making this trip through death for all of us. As a man, he leads us all through yet another birth canal called death to life, and his trust in God's unconditional love is the midwife to this new life.

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the **Son of Man** has been glorified, and **God** has been glorified in him. ³² If **God** has been glorified in him, **God** will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Our ability to love one another is Jesus criteria for discipleship. How is being aware of God's love for you helping you love others?

PRAYER: Teacher Jesus, your lesson today is "love one another as I have loved you." Every now and then I get a glimpse of the kind of love you talk about and it draws me on toward you. In those brief experiences of "glory" I recognize the truth that you lived and died for. It helps me reorient myself and gives me the ability to look at those you put in my life with a new appreciation of what love truly is. Amen