GREAT LOVE XXVI

Love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12

To understand what Christ commands us to do one must first understand the standard that He has set. Before we can love one another the way he commands we must first realize the love he has for us. He loved us while we were yet sinners. We were not godly at all. Our lives were unrighteous and full of iniquity. Far short of God was where we were living. It doesn’t seem right that God would choose to have any fellowship at all with us much less demonstrate his love for us. While we were steeped in sin He left the glories of Heaven to be born in the lowest of places among the most common of people. As he walked this earth and ministered he chose the fishermen, tax collectors, zealots and no name people to be his companions. He ministered to the blind, the lame, and demon possessed. He surrounded himself with thousands of hungry people. He obviously sought out the lost so that they might be saved for he came to seek and to save that which was lost.

With that in mind, how are we to love one another? Do we love the ungodly? We are commanded to. Do we love people while they are yet sinners? I am afraid that we are more attracted to those who we know are walking with Jesus. We are certainly not Christ but he told us to love others like he has loved us. We are challenged to love them out of their sins. It is easy to run from those who are in need but Jesus always found a way to be in their vicinity. How would you describe your ministry for Jesus? His was clearly defined. Christ trail of evidence was blind men seeing, dumb men talking, dead men made alive again, poor naked demoniacs clothed and in their right minds. If someone followed you or me would there be any evidence of the love of Christ found in our trail? Our trail should be marked by the relief of the poor, souls that have been saved, wayward Christians that have found their way home, hungry that have been fed, and discouraged down trodden souls who have been set on their feet again. This is evidence of “Great Love.”

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram