



Friendship with God

SERMON GUIDE

THE NEW COMMAND

John 13:31-38

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Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Prayers that invite God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Setting The Table: As soon as Judas left, Jesus knew that he was on the clock. Soldiers would be looking for him soon. When it's your final moments with your friends, you talk about what's most important. Here, Jesus calls His disciples to love one another, gives them a "new commandment," and gently tells Peter that even he will fall short. In all of this, Jesus reveals what true friendship with God looks like: marked by love, grounded in grace, and able to withstand our human failure.

As you read these verses, consider: What does it mean to be God's friend when He knows everything about us—and still invites us to walk with Him?

Read John 13:31-38

- S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Why do you think Jesus' "new commandment" about love immediately follows his comments about glory? What do we learn about love and glory in this reading?
- O** Why do you think the command to "love one another" is called a new commandment (v.34), when love is clearly commanded elsewhere (Lev. 19:18)?
 - In what way does Jesus redefine or deepen our understanding of love?
- O** What do we learn about friendship with God from Jesus' interaction with Peter (v.36-38)? Does this convict, challenge, or comfort you?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** Where is Jesus inviting you to grow in love, even if it means confronting your weakness or fear? How might friendship with Him change the way you respond to others—especially when they fail you?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.