

Youth Thought of the Week 29 April 2020

2 John 1:6

And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love. (NIV)

Wow!!! One verse from the New Testament. One simple task as a Christ follower. I don't know about you but that's a tall order for me. Let's look at the two commands from God in this verse.

The first is "obedience". How we exercise obedience can be done in a host of different ways. What stands out to me today is abiding by or being obedient to the law. As many of you are learning or finally able to drive, I have a confession to make. I don't necessarily ALWAYS do the speed limit. I know it's wrong. I've been stopped by law enforcement more than once but still have what's considered a lead foot. It's not something I always do but many times I find myself going too fast. Pay attention. You've heard it before; speed kills. Slow down.. That goes for me too. This is just one example of how I or WE are not obedient. Do you always do what your parents tell you? Do you always show your siblings, parents or others love and respect? I can tell you I didn't and most times it came back to haunt me. How are you not being obedient in your life?

The second is "walk in love". This is the most difficult thing of all for us to do. Jesus tells us numerous times in the New Testament to "love one another". Depending on the Bible version used, loving one another is listed about 66 different times in the Bible. The Ten Commandments God gave Moses for the Israelites were about love. The first part commanded the Israelites and us to love God and the second part commanded us to love each other. Two specific times scripture tells us in the New Testament are: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" John 13:34 and "He has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister" 1 John 4:21. It is VERY hard for me to ALWAYS love my brothers and sisters in a Christ follower or Christian manner. Many times I am judgmental or tempted to say my Sunday school lesson when someone cuts me off or is riding on my tale. I always feel better when I take a breath and say a little prayer for patience, understanding and compassion when this happens. An example of walking in love. Do you always hold you temper when your brother, sister or classmate wrongs you? Have you ever said something under your breath or in your mind when you're corrected or directed by your parents or teacher? Thank God for forgiveness and grace!!

As we are challenged under these unprecedented times, let's pray and focus to "walk in obedience and love" as we follow God's commands!

God's Peace this week my fellow Christ Followers!