

# **The Greatest Love**

**John 15:12-17**


**“Sacrifice and Freedom”**



# What is Memorial Day?

**Definition: A day to honor those who gave their lives for our nation's freedom.**

**"Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13 (NASB)**



**Memorial Day Reminds Us:**

**Precious in the sight of the Lord is  
the death of His godly ones.**

**Psalm 116:15 (NASB)**

**“Freedom Always Comes at a Price”**



# Christ Exemplifies Love

**“This is My commandment,  
that you love one another,  
just as I have loved you.”**

**John 15:12 (NASB)**





# **Christ's Sacrificial Love In Action**

**5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, as He already existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,**

**Philippians 2:5-6 (NASB)**



# **Christ's Sacrificial Love In Action**

**7 but emptied Himself by taking the form of a bond-servant and being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death: death on a cross.**

**Philippians 2:7-8 (NASB)**



# Christ's Ultimate Act of Sacrifice

**13 "Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13 (NASB)**

**But He was pierced for our offenses, He was crushed for our wrongdoings; the punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed." Isaiah 53:5 (NASB)**





# **National & Spiritual Parallel**

**\*Soldiers lay down their lives for our physical freedom.\***

**\*Jesus laid down His life for our eternal freedom.\***





# God's Sacrificial Love

**6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous person; though perhaps for the good person someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

**Romans 5:6-8 (NASB)**



# Christ's Friendship

**14 You are My friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, because all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.**

**John 15:14-15 (NASB)**



# **Sons & Daughters of God**

**14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons and daughters of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons and daughters by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"**

**Romans 8:14-15 (NASB)**





# **A Life That Bears Fruit**

**16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.**

**John 15:16 (NASB)**





# **A Life That Bears Fruit**

**Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.**

**Colossians 1:10 (NASB)**



# **A Life That Bears Fruit**

**22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
joy, peace, patience, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness,**


**23 gentleness, self-control; against  
such things there is no law.**

**Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)**



# A Life That Honors Christ

**9 Let's not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let's do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.**  
**Galatians 6:9-10 (NASB)**





# Our Response to Sacrificial Love

**17 “This I command you, that you love one another.” John 15:17 (NASB)**

**16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters.**

**1 John 3:16 (NASB)**





# Final Takeaway Thoughts

**\*Memorial Day isn't just remembrance - it's action.**

**\*Live in gratitude for sacrifice - both national and spiritual freedom.**

**\*Jesus commands us to live in love, reflecting His selfless heart.**



