***BETHEL DELIVERANCE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH***

***CELL DISCUSSION GUIDE***

***FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH, 2020***

***St. John 13:34-35 “LOVE ONE ANOTHER”***

***Reflect/Apply: 1. Why is it a challenge to show love today? 2. Why did the people not keep the commandments 3. Is it hard to love someone you don’t know? Why? 4. How did God show His love towards us? 5. Why should we show compassion to others? 6. Is love greater than racial divide? 7. What is love?***

 *As we are near election day, it seems that hatred and bitterness is on display. Politicians should be able to attack their record, but it should not become personal. This display of combativeness has crept into the church. Brothers and sisters against each other based on who they are voting for. We must not be divided. Jesus said, “I will build my church upon me.”* ***Matthew 16:18****. It is not built on the President, nor is it built on a preacher. It is built on Christ! The church is the Body of Christ. We are united!*

 *God gave Moses the Ten Commandments to give to the people. Yet, they did not follow them. Moses gave a series of laws to keep the people in line and to do what was right. He gave them dietary laws, family laws and religious laws. Yet, they did not follow them. Moses could not control the people, and neither can our leaders today. The people were not connected to God through rules and laws. They were connected to God by relationship. There are 17 Jehovah titles that speak of relationships, walking with God.*

 *God tells His people to love Him with all their heart, with all their soul, and with all their strength.* ***Deuteronomy 6:4-5.*** *How can you love anyone that you don’t know? It’s about building a relationship which God does. He tells them not to forget Him when success and prosperity comes their way.* ***Deuteronomy 6:10-12.***

*In* ***Mark 12:28-31****, a scribe asked Jesus, “What is the greatest commandment of all”? Jesus said to love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and He added mind. Love is more than a feeling! It is a decision, a mental consent. One count the costs. This love is more than sex. One can have sex without love! God’s love is demonstrated by His actions. His love for us sent His blameless Son to die for us.* ***Romans 5:8.*** *Love that is not demonstrated is no love at all. John tells us to love with actions and in truth.* ***1 John 3:18.***

*The Lord gives us mercy and forgives us time and time again. Why can’t we give mercy and forgive those who have wronged us? God tells us to love Him and to love our neighbor. There is no greater commandment than these two! Our neighbor is more than the person next door to us. Everyone who breathes is our neighbor. Therefore, we must be willing to help those who cannot help themselves.*

***Luke 10:25-37*** *tells the story of the Good Samaritan. It is believed the man was Jewish who was robbed and left for dead. Later, a Jewish priest saw him but did not help him. Later, a Levite, who assisted the priest, saw him but kept going. It was a Samaritan that helped him. Jews and Samaritans did not get along. However, this man took care of someone who despised him. We must not allow our racial differences, religious differences, and the color of our skin stop us from helping someone in trouble. We as God’s children, filled with His Spirit, must be better than that. Love one another!*

*Thought for Today: Have you demonstrated love to someone today?*