





# Strength for the Journey

## “The New Community People”

John 13:34-35



Notes:

4. What difference does it make to see the command to love one another as one of the boundaries in our lives that comes from God?

5. What is it about your church that makes people feel safe? How do you contribute to that sense of safety?

### Digging Deeper:

If you have enough time, answer one or more of these optional questions. But be sure to save time for the final two sections.

1. What is the significant difference between the old commandment—“Love your neighbor as you love yourself”—and the new commandment—“Love one another, as I [Christ] have loved you”?

2. Joe states that the new central ethic of love runs consistently through the whole New Testament. What other New Testament passages come to your mind? If you need some suggestions, look up Matthew 5:43–48; 1 Corinthians 13; and John 21:1–17.

3. Read Matthew 22:34–40. What does Joe mean when he says that if we love, everything else takes care of itself?

### Strength through Reflection:

1. Joe notes, “There’s something settled, something comfortable, something take-a-deep-breath-and-relax about the word safe.” How “safe” do you feel in your spiritual community?

2. How would you answer the question in the “Call to Action” below?

Dotted lines for taking notes.

