

**Theme:** The world will see how we love one another and know that we are Christ’s disciples. How can we know that God loves us, and that we truly love him? By keeping his commandments through the power of the Spirit in us.

**Background:** Jesus continues to comfort the disciples as he prepares for the cross.

**Introduction:** For you, what is the greatest evidence that Christianity is true?

## I. Praise And Prayer (12-14)

### A. Doing His works

1. Whoever believes!
  - Belief in Jesus – faith – bears fruit!
2. Proclaiming the gospel
  - Repent and believe
3. Doing the Father’s will
  - Serving
  - Active obedience

### B. Doing greater works (This is a little trickier)

1. What it doesn’t mean
  - a. “More works”
  - b. “More spectacular works”
2. What it does mean
  - Great displays of power

### C. For the glory of the Father

1. Because – I go to the Father
  - a. Not: Jesus is gone, we’re free to act now
  - b. Jesus *has* gone – to empower us (John 5:20)
    - Father shows the Son greater works – which the Son in turn shows to the disciples!
  - c. The work of redemption and judgment!
2. Thy kingdom come – the Kingdom of God invading the kingdoms of this world
  - a. Jesus’ identity was veiled on earth
  - b. Fully revealed in the resurrection and ascension
    - NOTE: Jesus signs, miracles, teaching couldn’t be fully understood until *after* his work on the cross and his glorification was done.
  - c. The Gospel revealed!
    - With clarity and power
    - The church grew rapidly
3. To the glory of the Father and the Son!
  - Jesus glorified the Father
  - So do the disciples, “in Jesus’ name”

### D. In his Name!

1. Is this a formula?
  - Just get the incantation right!
2. Asking *anything*?
  - How do we know what to ask for?? (15:7,16)
  - Motivated by love
  - To share in glory

## II. The Fruit Of Love

### A. Obedience (John 14:15,21,23; 15:10)

1. If you love me
  - a. Our love for Jesus
    - Jesus love was demonstrated and declared (John 13:1ff,34,35)
  - b. “If...then”
    - A simple, conditional statement
2. My commandments
  - a. Which ones? (John 12:47-50)
  - b. Must include (John 13:34; 15:12; 1 John 5:2)

### B. The Holy Spirit (16,17)

1. Our “Helper”
  - *Parakletos*
  - Counselor? Advocate? Helper?
2. What Jesus has been
  - They have had *him!* This is *another*, as he departs.
3. Present with us forever!
  - NOTE: Jesus ministry now continues in heaven.
4. From “with” to “in”
  - Who is with you – and will be in you.
5. Spirit of Truth
  - Bearing witness to the Truth (Christ, his work, person, glory?)

APPLICATION: *The world* doesn't trust what it can't see. (1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 4:4,17-18)

## III. An Abiding Promise

### A. In His care

1. Not left as orphans!
2. Leaving – and coming back (19)
  - a. You won't see me – then you will (resurrection!)
  - b. I live, therefore, you live!
  - c. Our intimate knowledge of Jesus (20)

### B. Loved (21b)

- Love and revelation

### C. At home with us (22)

1. A good question
2. A staggering answer (23,24)
  - Christ in us, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27)

**Conclusion:** These words are true – even when I don't *feel* it. We look to the Spirit to lead us in all truth.