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Please take a moment to quiet yourself before God. Ask Him to forgive you for any sin that is on your heart and to fill you afresh with Him Holy Spirit.

Now please read John 15:12-16.

What commandment has God given us according to verse 12?

To love one another as He has loved us.

To what extent are we to love one another (verse 13)?

To the point of laying down our lives for another. We are to live as Christ did; He did not come to be served but to serve and to lay down His life as a ransom for many. For believers in Christ, "to lay down one's life" means "to appoint one for one's service." We see in these verses that we are to lay down our lives before Christ and then He will use that sacrifice to meet the needs of others.

What relationship shift occurs in John 15:15?

When we accept Christ as our Savior we become part of His family. When we begin to walk with Him and obey His every command we go from *slave* to *friend*.

Name two words that describe believers in Christ from verse 16:

We are *chosen* and *appointed*. In the original Greek, *chosen* transliterates as *eklegomai* which means "to pick out or choose for oneself, of God choosing whom He judged fit to receive His favors and separated from the rest of mankind to be peculiarly His own and to be attended continually by His gracious oversight... as being dear to God beyond all others" (Blue Letter Bible). Isn't amazing that in God, we all get to be dear to Him beyond all others? We are all His favorite!

What have we been chosen and appointed to do?

To bear fruit that will remain. *Fruit* refers to acts and services that will enable souls to receive eternal life. Therefore, as believers, our main goal is to work to bring others to a saving knowledge of Christ. Are you living out that goal? If the answer is no, ask God to bring you opportunities to begin serving. If the answer is yes, remember to cover your work in prayer, continually seek the leading of the Holy Spirit and soak yourself in the Word of God.

Remember, you have been called and chosen to live a life of significance.

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