We all have heard of Jesus’ Famous teaching called the GOLDEN RULE

* Do to others what you want them do to you – Luke 6:31

And this actually is a restatement of something Jesus said that the meaning of Life is to

Love God and Love your neighbor as yourself – Mark 12:31

Now that is really beautiful but….

What does it mean exactly by the word LOVE?

It is actually an unclear word in ENGLISH..

Coz you can love your mom

And you can love pizza!

And if the word love means the same thing in both of those cases then your mom’s gonna feel real bad.

SO what did Jesus mean in his language?

One time Jesus was asked about what was the most important command in the scripture

He then first said

Love the Lord Your God with all of your heart!

So love for God!

 is the most important thing!

But then Jesus Quickly followed that by saying another command was also the most important command

To love your neighbor as yourself

So what is the most important?

Loving God or Loving your neighbor?

And the answer of Jesus to both is YES!

To ask those question, means we don’t get His point!!

FOr Jesus there are two sides of the same coin

Your love for God will be expressed by your love for people! And vice versa, they’re inseparable

To make this clear, For Jesus, AGAPE love is not primarily a feeling for someone else that happens to you,

Like our phrase I fell inlove….

For Jesus Love is action, it’s a choice that you make to seek the wellbeing of people other than yourself.

Jesus also went on to teach that genuine love for God and others means seeking other people’s wellbeing without expecting something in return, esp in people who are in difficult situation who cant repay you even if they wanted too

According to Jesus this kind of Generous love reflects the very heartbeat of God

And He took this even further

Jesus said that the ultimate standard of authentic love is how well you treat a person that you cant stand or in His words you love your enemy and do good to them expecting nothing in return.

For Jesus this kind of enemy Embracing love imitates the very character of God himself.

This is how Jesus exactly lived.

Jesus was constantly helping and serving the people around him in a very practical and tangible ways and He consistently move towards poor and hurting people who couldn’t benefit Him in return.

In fact this command is found in many places in the Bible. Here are a few:

John 13:34

In Jn 15:12

"This is my commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you."

In Gal 5:14

"For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

And many more…

This mean

First Loving one another is not an optional IT IS A COMMAND that we have to do.

Secondly, loving one another means loving everybeliever, everyone even those who are unlovable!

{Say to person next to you, kamahal mahal ba ko? }

It is not easy to define AGAPE love. It is something inward which shows itself in its actions.

AGAPE love is most clearly seen in God's giving His Son to die for us while we were yet sinners.

The Bible says,

"But God demonstrates His own [AGAPE] love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

These verse helps us to understand what AGAPE love really is.

AGAPE love is that love which gives and sacrifices for the highest good of another person.

The main characteristic of AGAPE love is that it is utterly unselfish. It does not seek its own interests but always seeks the best interests of the other person.

Chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians is called the "love chapter" because it tells us how love acts. Here is the way AGAPE love expresses itself:



I'm sure you'll run into somebody you don't think deserves your love or you just don't want to love at all, but God loves them and if we love God we are supposed to love them too.

Who exactly are we supposed to love?
\*Love God
\*Love yourself
\*Love your family
\*Love your friends
\*Love your neighbors
\*Love your enemies

\*Love God

What are some ways that we can love God?  It's not as hard as you think.

How do you show others you love them?  We talk to them, try to get to know them better, listen to them, and sometimes we do things for them.  We can do all these things for God.

We might not be able to touch Him but we can pray to God, read the Bible and learn about him, obey Him and do the things he asks us to do.

\*Love yourself

We are also supposed to love ourselves.  This doesn't mean that we should think we're better than everybody else.  We get this from a Bible verse that says do for others as you would want them to do for you.  This means we should take care of ourselves.  Things like looking before we cross the street,  eating our vegetables, and getting a good sleep at night - are ways we can do that. Remember that if you're a Christian the Spirit of God lives inside us and he wants us to treat ourselves with respect.

\*Love your family

Loving our family is hopefully pretty easy.  Even though we get mad at our parents sometimes because they don't let us do something, we still love them.  Just remember that you are part of a family and nothing will ever change that.  You should always be able to depend on each other and they'll be the ones to tell you the truth before anyone else.

\*Love your friends

Loving our friends should be easy because we pick the people we want to be friends with.

The thing is, sometimes when we disagree with our friends we think we don't have to be their friend anymore, but God's love would ask us to forgive them and try to work things out.

\*Love your neighbors

Do you know who your neighbors are?  Neighbors aren't just the people who live next to you but are everyone you might run into.  I don't want to encourage you to run up to strangers but think about helping others with love.  By helping an elderly lady who needs help with her groceries, returning a wallet found on the street, or even praying for people on the news that are in trouble

These are just a few ways to love a neighbor.

\*Love your enemies

I hope you don't have any enemies but there will always be someone that you don't get along with or believes the opposite of what you believe.  There are many, many people that don't believe in God and that purposely do things that hurt him and God still loves them.  Loving people that bully us or our friends, seems impossible, but it's not! with God's help.  By asking for God's help we will be able to love our enemies easier when we just can't do it on our own.

In ourselves we do not have the kind of love that the Lord commands. But God never commands us to do something without **enabling** us to do it.

How does God enable us to love one another with AGAPE love?

He gives us the indwelling Holy Spirit. The same Spirit that dwells in the Father and in the Lord Jesus now dwells in us. That AGAPE love which is in God's heart flows to us and through us to others by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says,

"…the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:5

AGAPE love does not come from our self-efforts or anything in us. It is the "fruit of the Spirit."

The Bible says,

"The fruit of the Spirit is [AGAPE] love…" Galatians 5:22

It was AGAPE love that enabled the first martyr, Stephen, to pray for the very men who were stoning him to death.

In Acts 6:5

As they attacked him, they drag him outside the city and stoned him to death. However, before he died, he called out to God, “Lord Jesus, receive my Spirit.” Immediately after this, he kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, “Lord, lay not this sin to their charge” and then he died.

in John 8, a Pharisee brought an adulteress to Jesus to challenged Him, Jesus lets watch this video clip.

(WATCH)

And WE are all guilty of something, we all commit mistakes and there are times we have wronged others too.

Not loving your neighbhor is a sin.

The Bible says,

"He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." 1 John 3:14-15

Right now, God may be speaking to you about someone you do not love. It may be a relative, a fellow church member, or someone else.

You may be saying, "I know that I should love that person, but how do I do it?"

**Just love them Like Jesus!**

Coz all of us has a story, lahat tayo may pinaghuhugutan. People act a certain way coz of something. Now instead of hating them why not lead them to GOD,

 coz I know you are suffering, may mga pinagdadaananka and all of us is going through something, including your enemy, your neighbor, your friend ,and your family.

Share Jesus to everyone and His love that you’ve discovered and experienced.

Lets watch this Video and meditate on it.

(WATCH, WATCH, WATCH)

Learning to love like God, takes a long time and takes God's help.  It's easier to love than to hate,

How can people "see" the unseen God? There is only one way—they must see Him in His people. The Apostle John said,

"No man has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and His love is perfected in us." 1 John 4:12

What is John saying here?

He is saying this, "No one can see God with his eyes. If we love one another, other people can 'see' the invisible God as they see His love manifested in us." This AGAPE love is powerful beyond measure.

so lets have lots of fun learning to love God and everyone around US!

And lets us Maam Jinky to Pray for us!