***March 6, 2016: New Year’s Theme / Ministry of Christ / Communion Sunday***

**“As The Father Has Sent Me…”**

**John 20:19-22**

* **In 2014, We must make the LOVE of Christ our CORE Competency.**
* **In 2015, We must make the GLORIFICATION of Christ our Highest PRIORITY.**
* **In 2016, We must make the Gospel of the MINISTRY of Christ our Sacred MISSION.**

***Romans 1:16 NKJV -*** *For* ***I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone*** *who believes…*

* **We exist to do the of Christ; in the of Christ; for the of Christ!**

***John 20:19-22 NIV78 -*** *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with* ***the doors locked for fear*** *of the Jews,* ***Jesus came and stood******among them*** *and said, “****Peace*** *be with you!”* ***20****After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were* ***overjoyed*** *when they saw the Lord.* ***21Again*** *Jesus said, “****Peace*** *be with you!* ***As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.****”* ***22****And with that* ***he breathed on them*** *and* ***said****, “****Receive the Holy Spirit****.”*

***John 20:21 VOICE –*** *“…In the* ***same way*** *the* ***Father sent Me****,* ***I am now sending you****.”*

1. **Legitimated By His RESURRECTION.**
* ***John 20:19-20 / 1 Cor. 15 / Jn. 14:6 / Acts 4:12 / Rm. 1:4 / Rev. 21:6***

***Matthew 22:29 NIV –*** *“You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the* ***power of God.”***

***John 11:25 NIV*** *– “…****I am the resurrection and the life****…”*

***John 14:19 AMP –*** *“…Because I live, you will live also.”*

1. **Motivated By His LOVE.**
* ***John 20:19-20 / Matthew 24:12 / Rev. 2:4-5 / Luke 16:27-28***

***Matthew 24:12 KJV -*** *…Because* ***iniquity shall abound****, the* ***love of many shall wax cold****.*

***Revelation 2:4-5 NIV84 -*** *Yet I hold this against you:* ***You have forsaken your first love.*** *5****Remember*** *the height from which you have fallen!* ***Repent*** *and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and* ***remove*** *your lampstand from its place.*

***Luke 16:27-28 NIV84 -*** *“He answered, ‘Then* ***I beg you****, father, send Lazarus to my father’s house, 28for I have five brothers.* ***Let him warn them****,* ***so that*** *they will not also come to this* ***place of torment****.’”*

***John 3:16 KJV -*** *For* ***God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son****, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

***Jeremiah 31:3 MESSAGE -*** *God told them,* ***"I've never quit loving you and never will. Expect love, love, and more love!”***

1.

***John 14:18 - I will not abandon you*** *as orphans—****I will come to you****.*

***John 1:14 - The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us****.*

***1 John 1:1-2 NLT -*** *We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have* ***heard*** *and* ***seen****.* ***We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life.******2This one who is life itself*** *was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life.* ***He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us****.*

***Ephesians 3:19 NIV -*** *…****To know this love that surpasses knowledge****—that you may be* ***filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.***

***Romans 8:37-39 NIV*** *- No, in all these things* ***we are more than conquerors through him who loved us****.* ***38*** *For I am* ***convinced*** *that neither* ***death*** *nor* ***life****, neither angels nor demons,neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,* ***39*** *neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,* ***will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord****.*

***1 John 3:1 -*** *How great is* ***the love the Father has lavished on us…***

***John 15:19 –*** *“****As*** *the* ***Father has loved me****,* ***so*** *have* ***I loved you****…”*

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***Mark 3:14-15 NIV84 –*** *He appointed twelve – designating them apostles –* ***that they might be with him*** *and that he might send them out to* ***preach*** *15 and to have* ***authority*** *to drive out demons.*

***1 John 1:3-4 NLT -*** *We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually* ***seen and heard*** *so that you may have* ***fellowship with us****. And our* ***fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ****.* ***4****We are writing these things so* ***that you may fully share our joy.***

***John 13:34-35 NLT –*** *“…A* ***new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you,*** *you should love each other.* ***35Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”***

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***John 15:13-14 NIV84 –*** *“****Greater love*** *has no one than this, that he* ***lay down his life for his friends****. 14 You are my friends…”*

***John 15:12-13 AMP –*** *“This is My* ***commandment****, that you* ***love*** *and* ***unselfishly seek the best for one another, just as I have loved you****.* ***13No one has greater love*** *[nor stronger commitment] than to lay down his own life for his friends.*

***1 Cor. 12:31 -*** *And yet* ***I will show you a still more excellent way*** *[one of the choicest* ***graces*** *and the* ***highest of them all: unselfish love****].*

***Ephesians 5:1-2 MESSAGE - Watch what God does, and then you do it****, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents.* ***2 Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with him and learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn’t love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.***

1 John 4:19 - We love because he first loved us.

***Phil. 1:9-10 NLT*** *- I pray that* ***your love will overflow*** *more and more, and that you will* ***keep on growing*** *in* ***knowledge*** *and understanding.* ***10*** *For* ***I want you to understand what really matters****, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ’s return.*

***1 Peter 4:8 NLT - Most important of all****, continue to show* ***deep love for each other****, for* ***love covers a multitude of sins.***

***Ephesians 3:17-19 MESSAGE*** *- And* ***I ask him*** *that with* ***both feet planted firmly on love****, you'll be able to take in with all followers of Jesus* ***the extravagant dimensions of Christ's love****.* ***Reach out and experience*** *the breadth! Test its length!* ***Plumb the depths****! Rise to the heights!* ***Live full lives, full in the fullness of God!***

1. **Captivated By His .**
* ***John 20:19, 21 / Heb. 13:8 /******Jn. 14:1-3 /******1 Pt. 5:7 /******Isa. 9:6***