He Loved Them To The End!
John 13:1

Intro: Tonight we join w/ Jesus’ disciples in celebrating the last supper w/ Jesus Christ. The story is told in Jn. 13. I’ve read this story countless times and have preached it often but tonight I’m arrested by the first verse which says: Jn. 13:1 He loved them to the end! To the end of what? He Loved Them To The End – To the Limits of Love’s Expression; Their Affection; His Life; All Time!

He Loved Them To The End – To the Limits of Love’s Expression! Vss. 13:1, 3-5
- The disciples’ feet were filthy from walking the dusty lanes of Palestine.
- In washing their feet Jesus played the part of their servant or slave.
- He did this to demonstrate his love.
- He stooped this low to show how deep his love would go.
- There’s nothing more he could have done that night to show how much he cared.

He Loved Them To The End – To The Limits Of Their Affection!
- There is a line from the communion liturgy that says, “When our love failed, your love remained steadfast.”
- The disciples love would fail but Jesus would love them to the end.
- He loved the Disciples who were Deserters. Jn. 13:5

He Loved Them To The End – To The Limits Of His Own Life!
- I said earlier that he loved them to the end – to the limit of love’s expression. It’s true, there’s nothing more he could have done that night to show how much he cared.
- But a few hours later he would do something more. He would hang his love on a Cross!
- And his dying moments were filled with love.
- Love for those who crucified him – Father forgive them…Lk 23:34
- Love for the thief on the cross beside him – Today you’ll be with me…Lk 23:43
- Love for us! Greater love…Jn 15:13

He Loved Them To The End – To The Limits Of All Time!
- Jesus love for them didn’t end that night. He would be raised to love them forever.
- Jn. 14:1-3; Mt. 28:18-20

Conclusion: Are you a disciple? Jesus loves you as he loved them: to the end or limits of love’s expression; your affection; his life; all time. Then love as you’ve been loved. This is the Mandatum, the Mandate: Jn. 13:34-35. We haven’t loved like that. For that we should be sorry. But we’ve been loved like that. For this we should be grateful.