

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)

- Internal: How was your week...anything new?! How was your walk with the Lord this week?
- External: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement from us?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)

- 1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?
- 2. Let's read our primary text. In verse 12 we are given an image of a two-edged sword. What does this sword represent?
- 3. Verse 13 says, "Satan's throne/dwelling is among you." Scholars have determined several possible meanings here, with one very possible meaning being the worship of the state, embodied in the emperor cult. What can we learn from this warning from Jesus?
- 4. Verse 14 makes a pretty haunting comparison between the teachings of Balaam (Num 22-25:1-3) to the current teachings of the Nicolaitans. How were they similar?
- 5. How did the church in Ephesus respond to the Nicolaitans? How did the church in Pergamum respond to them?
- 6. What can we learn from verse 16?
- 7. What is the main idea of this passage? How would you condense this into a couple sentences?
- 8. Any closing thoughts concerning this text? What have you learned? How does this text apply to us?

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Did you disciple your family well this week? Is Jesus the reason for your hope in your daily activity?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply His word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

HOMEWORK: Meditate on our weekly "Fighter Verse" - Matthew 6:19-21. How did last week's verse affect you? Did it cause you to pause or change anything as you progressed through the week?