

**NIV MEMORY VERSE: John 15:12,13**

**My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.**

Jesus is strongly making the point that the relationship of fellow believers is absolutely critical. Why? Division can destroy the body. How? It will destroy the body of Christ, the witness of believers, and destroy a human soul seeking God.

Pat Robertson reminds us "Is it any wonder that Satan, who knows full well what a church praying in one accord and empowered by the Holy Spirit can accomplish, does everything in his power to cause rancor and division among Christians and to entice them to sin?"

So how do we avoid division? The memory verse answers the question:

1<sup>st</sup>: The supreme command to believers is, Love one another. 1 John 3:23: "And this is His command, to believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He commanded us."

2<sup>nd</sup>: How to love one another? The supreme standard for believers is with the love of Jesus. Ephesians 5:2: "and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."]

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