

St. James Episcopal Church  
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!  
April 24, 2016—THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



#### A NEW COMMANDMENT

After Moses talked to God on the mountain he brought the law of God to the people, he told the people that God said

**“Love your Neighbor as Yourself.”** (Leviticus 19:18).

This was a wild and crazy idea! Then Jesus came along and said something even crazier. He said that you should love *everyone* the same amount that you love yourself, even your enemies. Jesus said

**“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another,  
just as much as I have loved you.”** (John 13:34)

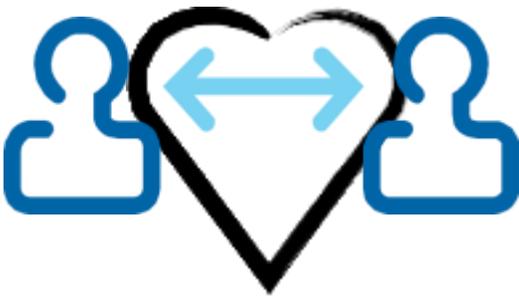
How much does Jesus love you? —A whole lot. More than more and bigger than big. How much should we love all people? The exact same amount.

## BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME: THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS

### A NEW TAKE ON AN OLD RULE

We have all learned the Golden Rule—"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". We all agree that this is a good rule. But Jesus takes it up a notch. He said "Love others as I have loved you." So, we have to think, how much has Jesus loved me? How can I show that love to someone else? There are so many ways we can show love. As a family, talk about things we can do to share the amazing love that God gives to us. How can we help others and make a better world?

We can share love in big and small ways, and it can be easy to forget the simplest ways to show love, little things that we can do for each other that make daily living so much nicer. As a family, talk about how following these simple rules show love and respect for each other—at home, school, work and play.



IF YOU OPEN IT -- CLOSE IT.

IF YOU TURN IT ON -- TURN IT OFF.

IF YOU UNLOCK IT -- LOCK IT.

IF YOU MOVE IT -- PUT IT BACK.

IF IT'S NOT YOUR'S -- GET PERMISSION TO USE IT

IF YOU BORROW IT -- RETURN IT.

IF YOU USE IT -- TAKE CARE OF IT.

IF YOU BREAK IT -- ADMIT IT.

IF YOU MESS IT UP -- CLEAN IT UP.

### Choose the correct word:

Jesus said: "I give you a \_\_\_\_\_ [new or boring] commandment, that you love \_\_\_\_\_ [one another or no one].

Just as I have \_\_\_\_\_ [ignored or loved] you, you also should love one another.

By this \_\_\_\_\_ [a few people or everyone] will know that you are my \_\_\_\_\_ [enemies or disciples], if you have love for one another.'

*John 13:34-35*

### Dinner Table Conversation:

*What difference does it make if I think about what other people want or need?*

*What does it feel like when people do things that I don't like?*

*What does it feel like when people do things that I DO like?*