

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## *The Simple Life*

The three things God requires of us:

- 1) – **Mark 12:29-30**
- 2) – **Mark 12:31** (Mt. 22:40)
- 3) – **John 13:34** (+35)

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**Genesis 1:26-27**, “Then God said, ‘Let **Us** make man **in Our image**, according to **Our likeness**; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the livestock, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ So God created man **in His own image**; **in the image of God** He created him; **male and female He created them.**”

That is why **every human life** is sacred

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Can we live as the image of “**Us**” who made us as “**I**” or “**me**”?

- **NO**
- God who is “**Us**” is never not One as **Father, Son & Holy Spirit**

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Remember, the beginning of the prayer, “**Our Father in heaven**” is **with Jesus**

- It is not **my** Father in heaven
- We cannot “**receive**” **Christ** and be separate from **who He is**  
(Not a plea-bargain to **accept**. How about wedding vows?)
- And He is never not part of the “**Us**” who was - before we were created
- Being made in **Their** image must be like & with **Them**

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**John 10:30**, “I and the Father are one.”

**John 17:11**, “And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, whom You have given Me, that **they may be one, even as We are one.**”

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**John 17:20-23**, “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that **they all may be one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; **that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that **they may be one just as We are one**: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be **made perfect in one**, and that the world may know **that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.**”

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What is the bond of the “**Us**” that is “**Our**” we are made by?

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“**That You have loved them as You have loved Me.**”  
(John 17:23)

**Love** is the relational oneness we are **made to be like**

- **Love does not exist** apart from relationship

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God declared our purpose before Adam & Eve sinned (Gen. 1:26-27)

Did He ever change that?

**Romans 5:8**, But God **demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

How do we live in the image & likeness of **the One who made us?**

- “Let **Us** make man **in Our image**, according to **Our likeness**”
- By **loving like God**

**I John 4:19**, We love Him because **He first loved us**. (An Egyptian slave market)

**I John 4:18**, There is no fear in love. But **perfect love drives out (displaces) fear**

**I John 4:17**, Love has been **perfected among us** in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we** in this world. (**John 17:23**, that they may be **made perfect in one**)

**John 14:15**, Jesus said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

**I John 5:3**, For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. (Marriage vows – are you committed to loving this person?)

**Mark 12:29-30**, Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, **the LORD is one**. And **you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.**”

**He has already committed & proven His love for us**

- What is our response?

**I Corinthians 13:1-2**, If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, **I am nothing**.

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If we don't have **#1** in working order;

- We're not ready to move on to **#2** yet

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**Things To Pray & Do:**

- **Believe Him** & receive His love for you (us)
- **Thank Him** & commit yourself to love Him in return
- **Tell Him** you love Him every day
- **Ask Him** to help you define your day by loving Him
- **Do it for Him**, to bless Him. He loves to receive it from you
- Let that be **your reward**