

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOW SHIP

Stand Up and Love Matthew 23

Martin Luther wasn't looking for division, he was looking for restoration of the Church he loved.

Jesus was calling leaders to a standard to help the people He loves

By sticking to a standard you are drawing a line Matt 10:32-39

But how can love divide? Because love refuses to be unloving.

We talk about love coming from the heart and yet the Bible shows our hearts aren't particularly altruistic. Society shows the same.

The heart is the propulsion for ideas, but it is not a good guide.

The scribes and pharisees weren't acting in love.

The priests and bishops weren't acting in love.

But what defines love? The One that can see the purest form of love.

How does this One define love? John 15:12-17, 1 John 4:7-11

How do we know love if not through knowing God? 1 Cor 1:20-25

How do we obey His commands without listening to what He says? 1 Cor 2:1-5

There must be divisions among us because we must stand firm. We must be willing to truly love

which tends to require sacrifice. We won't always be liked for acting in love. 1 Cor 11:17-22

Discern between purity and preference.

Pursue peace. Romans 12:17-21

One man's ways may be as good as another's, but we all like our own best -

Persuasion

Will the environment you are in and the church you are at allow you to pursue true love?

In Jesus' day and in Martin Luther's "the

church" needed some tough love and eventually turned into the mission field. (same principles as Matthew 18:15-17)
It's always been the same calling and we've always had the same choice. Joshua 24:14-15