

# DO YOU KNOW JESUS?

## THE COMMANDS OF JESUS

## LESSON ONE - TEXT: JOHN 15:8-11

**INTRODUCTION:** In today's Christian communities, there is the prevalent doctrine of extreme lawlessness. The underline belief today is that Jesus came to abolish or fulfill the law, and left us with one vague commandment – love. Furthermore when a church or a Christian goes against this extremely popular spirit of lawlessness, they become tagged as a legalist and are immediately shunned by the popular Christian community. This lesson is not intended to overlook the importance of love, but its intention is to make Christians aware of the doctrine (teaching) of Christ and to make us all aware that Jesus requires a few things from us.

### WHAT DOES THE WORD COMMAND MEAN?

1. Order by a superior to carry out an action. An individual can be commanded to do something. The word has a militaristic connotation in that commands given to those lower in rank must be obeyed. When one is commanded to do something, one is compelled. – Barron's Dictionary

### WHAT ARE SOME OF THE COMMANDS THAT JESUS GAVE US?

1. Jesus commands us to repent.
  - a. Repentance is twofold – turning from sin and turning to God.
  - b. **(Matthew 4:17) Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Luke 13:24) (Matthew 6:33)**
2. Jesus commands us to believe.
  - a. Jesus commands us to believe in him, the Gospel, and the Father.
  - b. **(John 14:1) ... ye believe in God, believe also in me. (John 6:29) (Mark 1:15)**
3. Jesus commands us to be born again.
  - a. **(John 3:7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**
4. Jesus commands us to follow him.
  - a. **(John 12:26) If any man serve me, let him follow me... (Luke 9:23)**
5. Jesus commands us to pray.
  - a. **(Luke 21:36) Watch ye therefore, and pray always... (Luke 22:40) (Luke 6:28)**
6. Jesus commands us to have faith in God. – A Christian is made great when he has faith in a great God.
  - a. **(Mark 11:22) And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.**
7. Jesus commands us to study our Bible. – this is a daily must in the Christians life.

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- a. ***(John 5:39) Search the scriptures... (John 15:20)***
8. Jesus commands us to let our light shine.
  - a. ***(Matthew 5:16) Let your light so shine before men... (Mark 5:19)***
  - b. Each Christian is to daily let there light shine brightly.
9. Jesus commands us to love God. – Christians are to love and serve God completely.
  - a. ***(Mark 12:30) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God... (Matthew 4:10)***
10. Jesus commands us to love our neighbors. – Our neighbor is the one in need.
  - a. ***(Matthew 19:19) Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.***
11. Jesus commands us to love other Christians. – We are to love, forgive and hold back criticism.
  - a. ***(John 15:12) This is my commandment, That ye love one another... (Luke 17:4)(Matthew 5:24)***
12. Jesus commands us to obey the government and its authority.
  - a. ***(Mark 12:17) Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's...***
13. Jesus commands us to be wise. – Not human wisdom, but wisdom from God.
  - a. ***(Matthew 10:16) ...be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.***
14. Jesus commands us to be perfect. – Jesus sets the bar for all believers.
  - a. ***(Matthew 5:48) Be ye therefore perfect...***
  - b. All Christians must strive for perfection in grace and holiness.
15. Jesus commands us to preach the Gospel.
  - a. ***(Mark 16:15) Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.***
  - b. All Christians must preach the Gospel where he or she is.
16. Jesus commands us to be ready for his return.
  - a. ***(Luke 12:40) Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh ...ye think not.***
17. Jesus commands us to be faithful unto death.
  - a. ***(Matthew 24:13) But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.***
  - b. Its not how you started, but it is how you finish.