

# Born to Sail

“Mission Statement: “Our mission: to enable people to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ, growing in their love for God, each other, and the world.”

Key Things:

mission – example of Jesus

our – Christians who are part of local body

enable – posture of leaders: train, equip & release

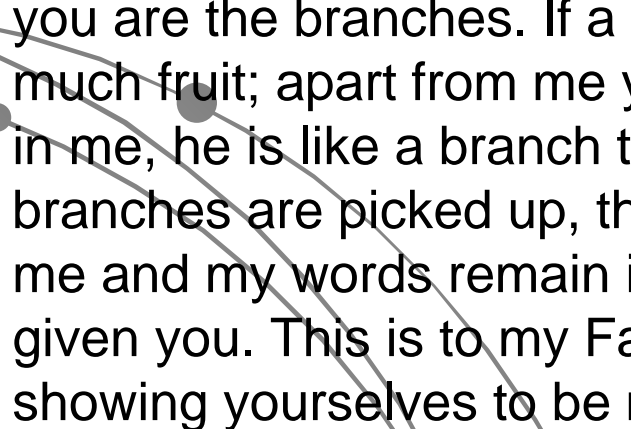
become – invitation to transformation, more

faithful followers – reflect Jesus in attitude & action

# Born to Sail

Growing....

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



# Born to Sail

Observations about Growing:

- suggests state of constant change, never done!
- evident to all around:

\* noticeable \*

\* measurable\*

*“to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.”*

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In Their Love For.....

*“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.  
Love never fails.”*

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## Simple observations about love

- vs 1-3 – not shown in ability or resources, yet is key to results
- Love **is** patient, kind
- Love **never**: envy's, boasts, prideful, rude, self seeking, easily angered, keeps lists of wrongs, delight in evil
- Love **always**: rejoices with truth, protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres

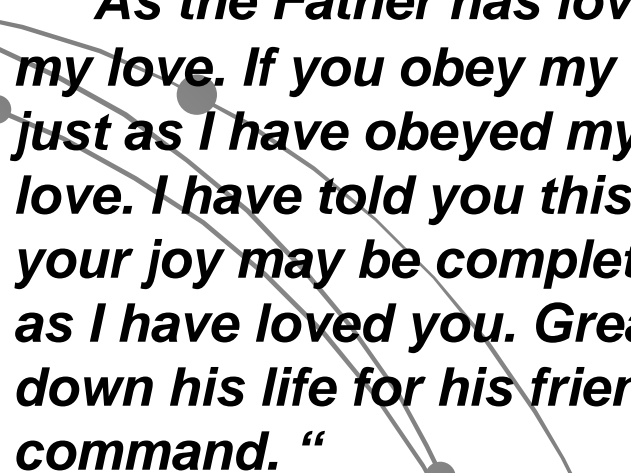
*Vs 13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.  
But the greatest of these is love.*

# Born to Sail

Growing in their love:

***"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. "***

***"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. "***

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Love for God:

- specific intentional order of things:

***"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"  
Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and  
with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and  
greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your  
neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these  
two commandments."***

- \* Puts everything in perspective
- \* Priorities determine investment
- \* Reflect God – must know God

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Love for Each Other....

***“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”***

***“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”***

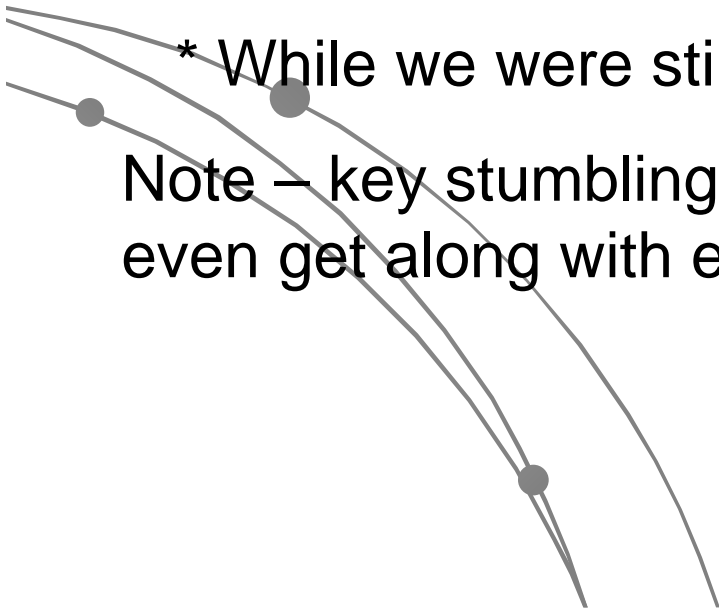


# Born to Sail

- \* We are God's ambassadors – represent him
- \* Clear – know you are my disciples by your love
- \* Let this attitude be in you that was in Christ Jesus ...
  - humility, sacrifice, service, obedience,

\* While we were still sinners – Christ died for us

Note – key stumbling block for many – Christians can't even get along with each other – some love!



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Love for the World....

***“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”***

***“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”***

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So What

1. Growth is Essential and Expected
2. Motivation Is Critical to Christ Followers
  - God's Heart Growing In Me
  - God's Heart Showing to Others
  - God's Heart Affecting My Involvement in My World

