

# **PBC Growing in Christ**

**Reverends Patrick and Stephanie Burrage**

**February 14, 2021**

# Class Norms

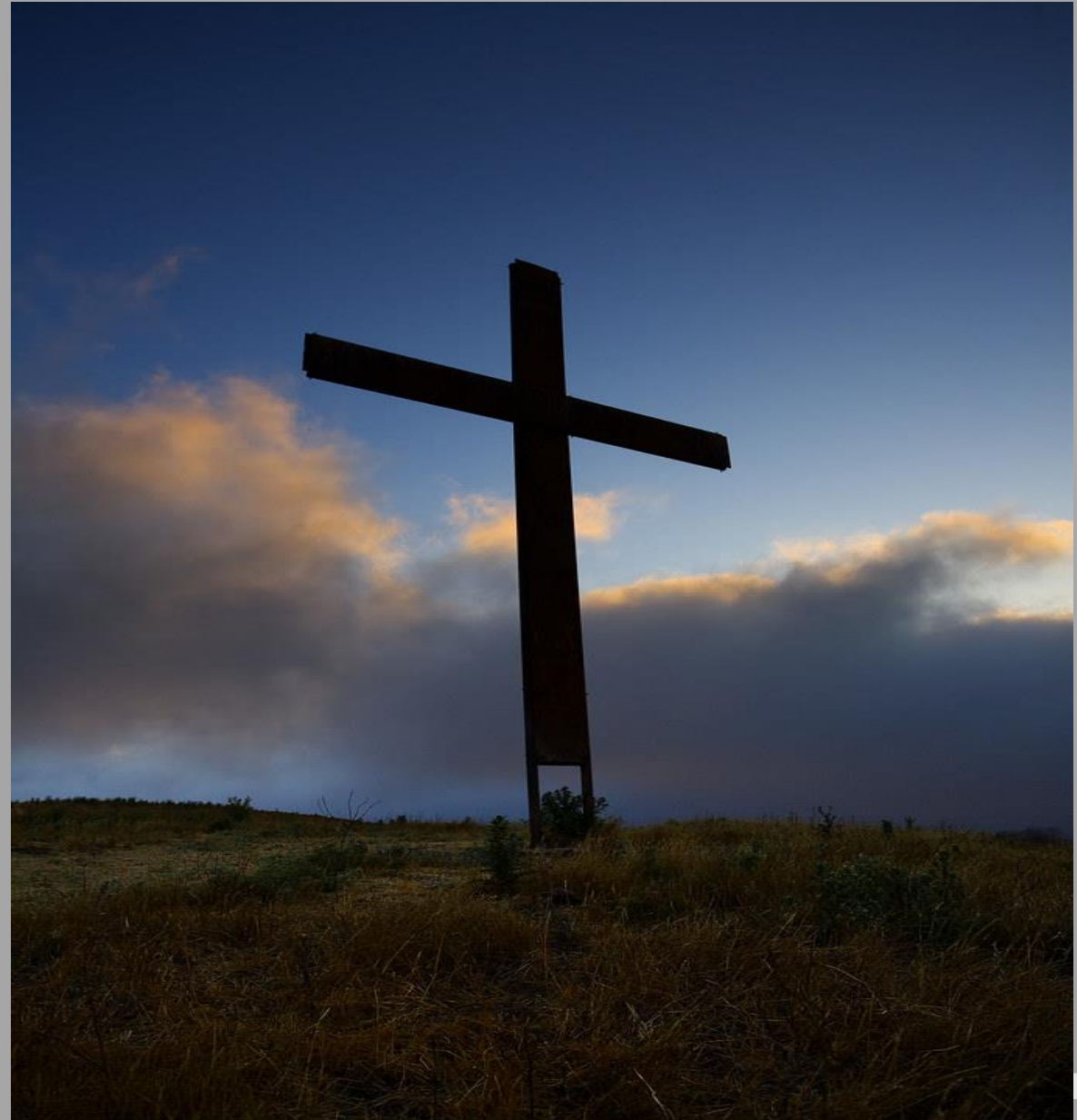
A large, dark wooden cross stands in a field of tall grass. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with a gradient from deep blue to orange and yellow near the horizon. The cross is the central focus, with its vertical post and two horizontal arms clearly visible against the sky.

- Place your microphone on mute.
- Use the chat room. Located in the upper right of the screen.
- Interact in the class just raise your hand. The instructor will take you off mute.
- Technology may not always work....please be patient.
- God is always in the midst
- Enjoy the class.

# Growing in Christ

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- Every day is an opportunity to grow in the word.
- Growing in Christ will tackle real life issues, while studying the bible for its answers.
- Examine challenges believers and non-believers face every day.
- Growing in Christ bible study will focus on how Christians face challenges and how the bible addresses these issues.



# Growing in Christ

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*To equip his 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. Ephesians 4:12-13 (NIV)*





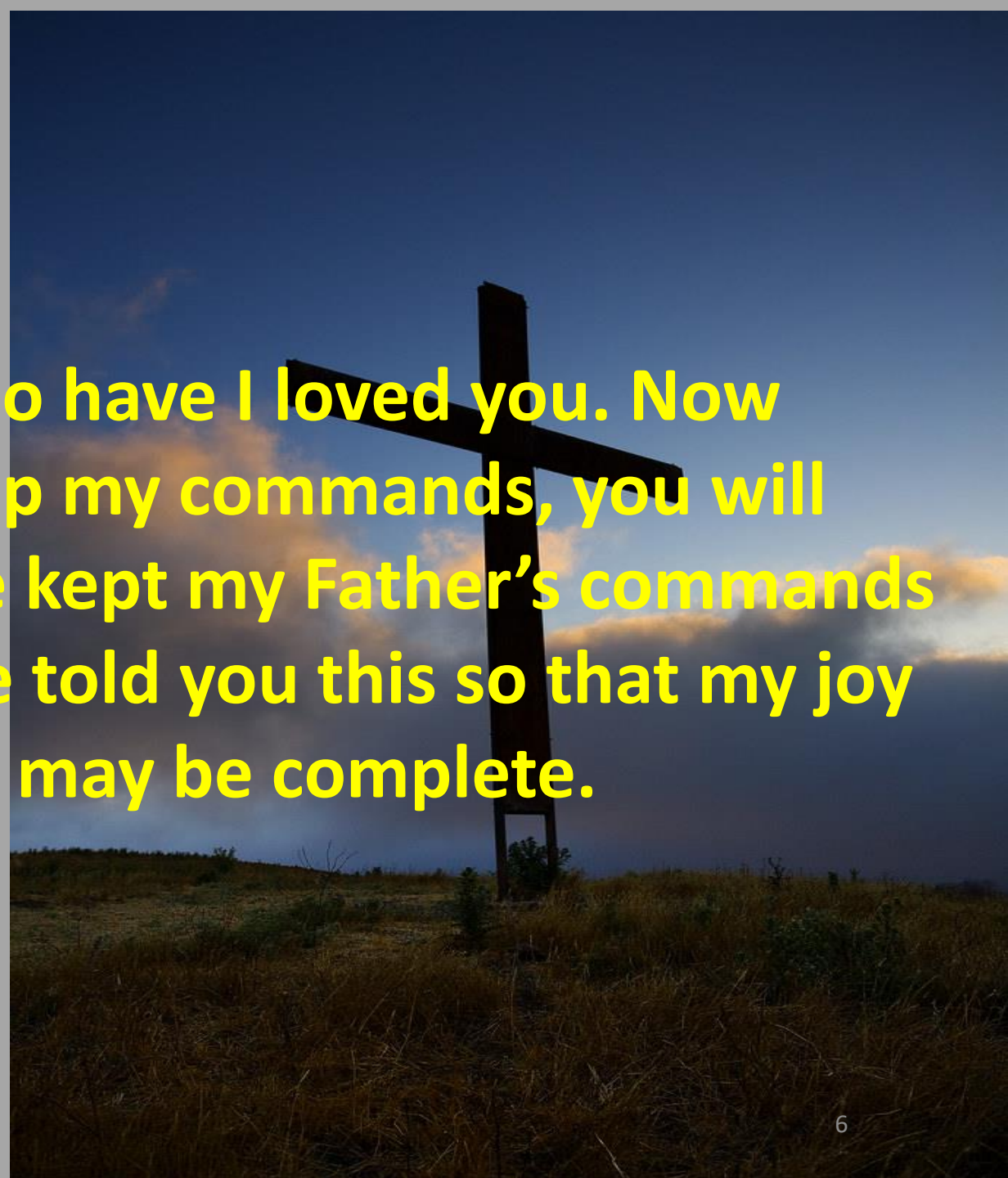
## Christian Love John 15:9-17

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When has small problems  
clouded your view?

**Scripture**  
**Christian Love**  
**John 15:9-11**

**9 “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.**





## Christian Love John 15:9-11

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What does Jesus' mean, when he said,  
“As the Father has loved me, so have I  
loved you.”

What does this mean to our relationships  
on earth?

What are the issues of living in the  
moment of joy?

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# Christian Love

## John 15:9-11

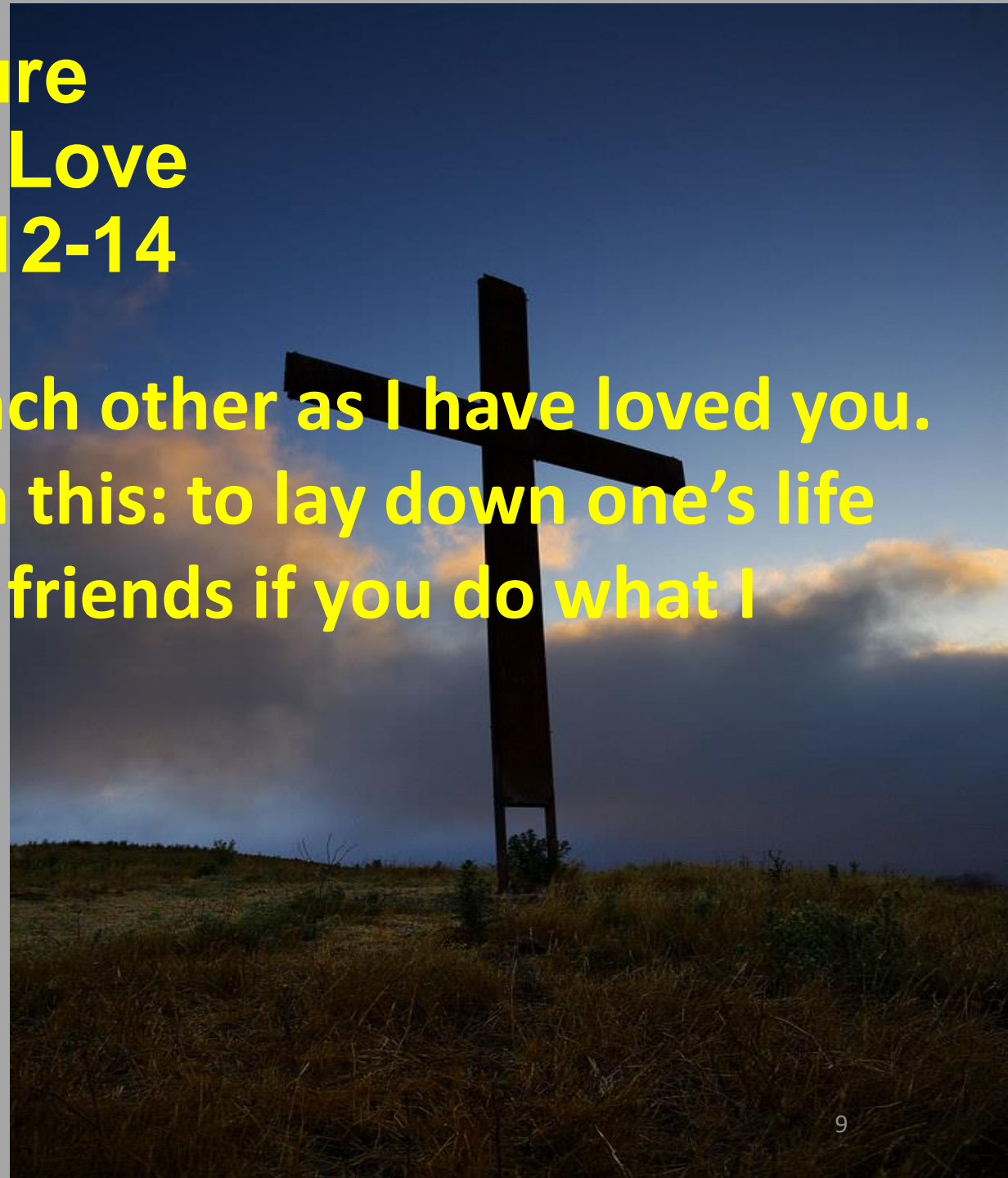
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- True joy transcends the rolling waves of circumstances
- The joy of living with Jesus Christ daily will keep us levelheaded, no matter how high or low our circumstances.



**Scripture**  
**Christian Love**  
**John 15:12-14**

**12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.**  
**13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life**  
**for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I**  
**command.**





# Christian Love

## John 15:12-14

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**How do you keep love  
alive?**

**What does sacrificial love  
look like in our lives?**

# Christian Love

## John 15:12-14

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- We are to love each other as Jesus loved us.
- We can practice sacrificial love in other ways: listening, helping encouraging and giving

# Scripture

## Christian Love

### John 15:15-17

15I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17This is my command: Love each other.



# Christian Love

## John 15:15-17

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How do you avoid being swallowed up in feeling not being loved?

What is the difference in a servant relationship vs a friend relationship?

# Christian Love

## John 15:15-17

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- Jesus is our Lord and Master and has the right to call us servant, but he calls us friend.
- Jesus loved us to chose us and considers us his friend.
- Jesus commands that you love them and he will give you the strength to do it.



# GROWING IN CHRIST IN ACTION

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

- **Think of someone.** Identify someone this week who is need of a love act.
- **Evaluate your life.** Make a list of joy in your life and another list of small problems in your life. Place joy list under your pillow and pray for continued joy and love. Pray for your small problems and place them into the trash.
- **Love someone.** Share with someone you don't normally tell that you love them and Jesus Christ does, too.



# Final thoughts about Christian Love

- Jesus made the first choice- to love and to die for us, to invite us to live with him forever.
- We make the next choice-to accept or reject his offer.
- Without his choice, we would have no choice.



# Resources

- **BIBLE-Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth**
- **[Bible.com](http://Bible.com)**





Next Week: February 21, 2021  
**Serve**

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Galatians 5:13-15; 6:1-5,10

When have you received stellar  
service?



# God Bless You!

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