Date: 1/23/16 (Repeated 1/25/20)

Title: The Gospel According to You

Theme: God wants our lives to be a reflection of His love.

Object: Greek New Testament

Text: John 13:34-35 (NIV) 34 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Did you hear what Jesus said to His disciples?

The best way to show others that you are a disciple of Jesus is to be kind and loving just like Jesus was.

I brought with me a special book today. It’s the Bible. Actually just the NT of the Bible

And I’ve marked the passage that we just read from the gospel of John in this Bible.

Can I have a volunteer who can read the first two words of John 13:34? [Let volunteers try to read].

The reason everybody is having trouble reading this bible is that it is written in Greek.

Now Greek is the original language that was used to write the NT.

When Matthew, Mark, Luke and John wrote their gospels, they wrote it in Greek. This language!

And for us to understand what the Bible says, we need someone to translate it into English.

We speak English, and we understand English; we don’t speak Greek and we don’t understand Greek.

So we need a translator who understands both English and Greek to translate the Greek into English.

[Point out the interlinear translation]

Now you may have some friends that don’t love Jesus and don’t understand what it means to be a Christian.

They don’t know that being a Christian means that we are loved by Jesus who died for our sins.

And when we invite Jesus to be our Savior and are sorry for our sins, God forgives us and gives us eternal life.

And because of what Jesus has done for us we love Him and want to live in a way that will please Him.

They don’t understand what being a Christian means just like you don’t understand what this Greek NT means.

So they need a “translator” so they can understand what it means to be a Christian.

God wants you to be the translator for them.

They may never read the bible or go to SS, but they see you.

They see how you act; they hear how you talk; they see how you treat other people; they can tell if you’re honest and truthful, they know if you’re kind or mean…

And remember what Jesus said: the best way to show others that you are His disciples is to love them.

Did you ever hear: “WWJD”

It stands for What would Jesus do?

If we all asked ourselves that question and did what Jesus would do, others would see what it means to be a Christian.

Poem: The Gospel According to you

There’s a gospel according to Matthew,

To Mark, and to Luke, and John too;

There’s another that many are reading:

The Gospel according to you.

All the teachings we find in the Bible

Are but facts we believe to be true;

You must live them to make them the Gospel—

The Gospel according to you.

Every day you are writing your gospel,

In this life you may never know who

May be helped or hindered by reading,

The Gospel according to you.

Many read not the words of the Bible,

I will tell you what some of them do;

They are reading the book you are writing,

The Gospel according to you.

There’s power in the minister’s preaching,

So you say, “I believe this is true,”

But the thing that may tell most on others,

Is the Gospel according to you.

God help you to Christ to be faithful,

And to live all His teachings so true,

So that all may be seeing His Spirit,

In the Gospel according to you.

H.H. Ryland