

How does Jesus draw all men?

Just before the Last Supper, Jesus spoke to some Greeks who had come to visit Him:

And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was about to die. (John 12:32-33, LSB)

The figurative meaning of “draw” here is “to attract.”

1. Carefully observe the text. What is Jesus referring to when He says, “if I am lifted up from the earth?”

2. How does Jesus draw all men to Himself? What do you see in these verses?

At the Last Supper:

From now on I am telling you before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am He. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives anyone I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.” (John 13:19-20, LSB)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35, LSB)

After His crucifixion / resurrection and just before His ascension to heaven:

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8, LSB)

How does Jesus draw all men?

Teacher Notes

Just before the Last Supper, Jesus spoke to some Greeks who had come to visit Him:

And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was about to die. (John 12:32-33, LSB)

The figurative meaning of “draw” here is “to attract.”

Review with the student the difference between the literal and figurative meaning of a word.

A literal meaning is seen in this example:

Simon Peter then, having a sword, **drew** it and struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear; and the slave’s name was Malchus. (John 18:10, LSB).

A figure of speech can be seen in this example:

The Lord appeared to him from afar, saying,
“I have loved you with an everlasting love;
Therefore I have **drawn** you with lovingkindness. (Jer 31:3, LSB)

1. Carefully observe the text. What is Jesus referring to when He says, “if I am lifted up from the earth?”

Help the student understand the significance of Jesus’ death. Why is Jesus saying that the manner of His death will draw all men? Here is a hint:

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be **lifted up**; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3:15-17, LSB)

While Jesus is referring to the manner of His death by crucifixion, it is that His sacrificial death, in substitution of us, is in payment of our sins. Placing a belief and trust in this enables us to have eternal life.

God’s provision of His only Son demonstrates an unimaginable love for mankind.

Jesus’ willingness to die and pay for the sins of mankind demonstrates an incomprehensible love for mankind.

This agapē love is what draws all men to Jesus Christ.

2. How does Jesus draw all men to Himself? What do you see in these verses?

At the Last Supper:

From now on I am telling you before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am He. Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives anyone I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.” (John 13:19-20, LSB)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35, LSB)

Ask the student: who does Jesus send to His disciples? Take the time to explore what Jesus is saying.

When Jesus sends the Holy Spirit, the recipient receives the Spirit of Jesus Christ and the Spirit of God. The Believer receives the Trinity!

Ask the student: explain the new commandment. What kind of love is Jesus talking about?

The love that Jesus is talking about is *agapē* as seen in Greek:

A new commandment I give to you, that you love (**agapaō**) one another, even as I have loved (**agapaō**) you, that you also love (**agapaō**) one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love (**agapē**) for one another.” (John 13:34-35, LSB)

This is the same kind of love that motivated God to send His only Son and motivated Jesus to die willingly on the cross.

Ask the student: why is this a command to the disciples? What do you see in your family life?

After His crucifixion / resurrection and just before His ascension to heaven:

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8, LSB)

Ask the student: when did the disciples receive the Holy Spirit? When do you receive the Holy Spirit?

Ask the student: how does Jesus draw all men?