

A close-up of a human eye, looking slightly to the right. The iris is a mix of blue and green. The background is a colorful, abstract, swirling pattern of red, orange, and blue, resembling a nebula or a galaxy. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

AUTHENTIC

RELATIONSHIPS -

PART 5

25TH ANNIVERSARY  
REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION

# *The Friendship Factor*



HOW TO GET CLOSER  
TO THE PEOPLE  
YOU CARE FOR

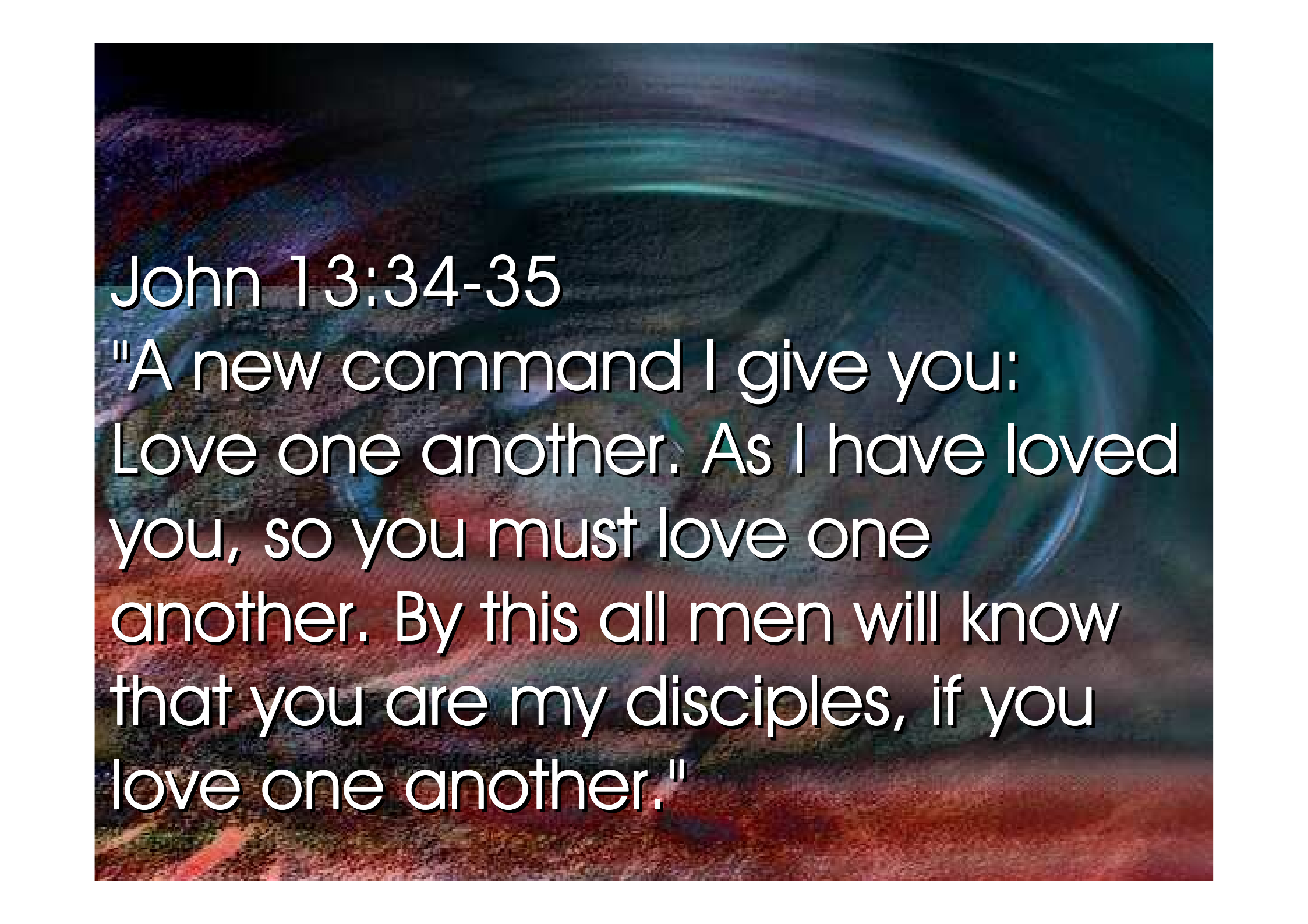
ALAN LOY MCGINNIS

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# Friendship:

*Our most valuable commodity*





John 13:34-35

"A new command I give you:  
Love one another. As I have loved  
you, so you must love one  
another. By this all men will know  
that you are my disciples, if you  
love one another."

# Unconditional Love



# Unconditional Love

Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Mark 10:17 - 23



# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

1. Assign top priority to your relationships.
2. Cultivate transparency
3. Dare to talk about your affection
4. Learn the gestures of love
5. Create space in your relationships

# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

1. Assign top priority to your relationships.



“Love must be learned and learned again and again; there is no end to it. Hate needs no instruction, but wants only to be provoked.”  
– Katherine Anne Porter

# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

## 2. Cultivate transparency



# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

3. Dare to talk about your affection



# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

4. Learn the gestures of love



# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

5. Create space in your relationships



# Five ways to deepen your relationships:

## 5. Create space in your relationships

- Be cautious with criticism
- Employ the language of acceptance
- Encourage your friends to be unique
- Allow for solitude
- Encourage other relationships

# Q & A



The background of the slide is an abstract, artistic composition. It features a central, glowing globe-like shape with a grid of latitude and longitude lines, rendered in shades of blue, green, and white. This central element is surrounded by swirling, ethereal patterns in deep reds, purples, and blues, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is that of a digital or space-themed background.

# Question 1:

**What is the difference between close friends, friends and acquaintances?**



## Question 2:

**When things are rough in a relationship what needs to be done is mostly the opposite to your natural and immediate response. How do you trust yourself to do what is right?**



# Question 3:

**How do you keep being transparent when you feel like your friends are not?. I feel betrayed and I'm tempted to withdraw.**

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