

GOSPEL PEARLS

The commandments of happiness

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11_05_2020



Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?" Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the

Father who sent me. "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14: 26)

When you love someone, you want to please them. This is why Jesus says that when observing the commandments, which manifest God's Will to all of us, we prove our love of Him. On the other hand, the commandments are given by God to make us happy, here in our earthly lives, but, above all, in our eternal lives with Him. May we keep God's commandments to please Him ever more and to be happy here on earth.