

Love is a Verb
LifeGroup Lesson
February 12, 2017
John 13:34

OPENING PRAYER:

Teach us today what it means to love -- not a love that we have conjured up in our minds, or a love that we have seen on movie screens, but real love. Challenge us in the ways we have chosen not to love. Move us toward genuine patience, kindness and humility. Let us be moved to love especially when it is inconvenient and difficult. Teach us today what it means to love one another as you have loved us. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the LifeTalk this week?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Begin with these two questions:

- Our family of origin has a tremendous affect on how we live out our adult lives. What rules of love (both healthy and unhealthy) did you learn from your family of origin?
- What would it look like for you to make love a verb?

This week we studied v. 34, yet it comes in an important context. Read John 13:31-38.

- What speaks to you in the entire passage?
- What is your reaction to Peter? How are you like him? What about this passage changes your life?

Read Ephesians 5:15-21. Some versions link v. 21 with the next section, but other scholars link v. 21 with v. 15-20.

- How do you see v. 21 relating to the previous section? How does it complete those verses?
- To which relationships do you believe Paul is referring? What would it look like if we submitted in all our relationships?
- Paul is talking about 'mutual submission'. What does this look like in all your relationship?

CLOSING POSSIBILITIES:

- Lift up the name of the person most important in your life. Pray for those names before you close group.
- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week?
- How can the group pray for you this week?

NEXT STEPS:

- What is swirling inside of you? Review what's going inside of you and then have a conversation with the person to whom you are closest. In sharing our soul we bring sins/fears/secrets to light and take away their power.
- Look at how you treat those around you. Where are you on your best behavior? Who in your life receives the 'left over'? Are your priorities and relationships in the right place? What action steps can you take to make a change in your life?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

O God, our Father, who sent your Son to be our Savior: Renew in us day by day the power of your Holy Spirit; that with knowledge and zeal, with courage and love, with gratitude and hope, we may strive powerfully in your service: May he keep our vision clear, our aspiration high, our purpose firm and our sympathy wide; that we may live as faithful soldiers and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ.

--William Temple (1881-1944), Archbishop of Canterbury.