

Small Group & Personal Bible Study

Memory Verse: John 15:12

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.”

Study Questions:

Read Romans 12:9-13

1. How would you rate yourself on love toward your brothers and sisters in the body of Christ?
 1. Sincerely devoted in love to all in the body of Christ.
 2. I love those I'm connected with in the body of Christ.
 3. I really don't think much about loving others in the body of Christ.
 4. I have some people I **can't** love within the body of Christ. *(there was a typo in the bulletin)*
 5. I feel no devotion, no love to those in the body of Christ.

Recognize that most of us struggle with loving everyone in the body of Christ. This could be a great launching off point to opening up to struggles people are having. As a group leader, you must be careful to keep this from becoming a time to rationalize why they don't love someone and turn this into a bashing session. Instead, encourage people to search their own hearts rather than the lovability of others. Agape love is unconditional!

2. What are some consequences to an insincere love toward others in the body of Christ?

Most importantly, God is not glorified and revealed when love is not sincere. When love is insincere and troubles come or things don't go the way we want them to we will split and divide. Insincere love creates the appearance of a relationship but it is easily broken and revealed as a fake. (Remember what Tim said about root word for sincere: without wax. A pot without wax and without cracks is truly able to take the test of the sun and the water.) In the same way, a sincere love is able to take the test of trials and troubles and persevere in all circumstances.

3. Based upon what you have learned about love in the family of God, what is one thing you feel you should do to sincerely love others as Christ commanded?

Before going asking this question, read Romans 12:9-13 and 1 Corinthians 13 as a group
After reading the scriptures, let each person go around the room and share what God is revealing to them about much they love. Take notes to pray for the individuals as needs come out.

Daily Reading Plan:

- Day 1 – John 13:34-35
- Day 2 – John 15:12-14
- Day 3 – Acts 2:42-47
- Day 4 – Acts 4:32-35
- Day 5 – Galatians: 6:1-10

