

Mission: Love People

February 9, 2020

Catch-Up

Tell a story about a person in your life (ideally not a family member) who loved you in a way that showed you the love of God.

Reading/discussion

- What makes it difficult for people to trust God's love for them?
- Share your thoughts, questions, or feelings about being made in God's image (Imago Dei).
- What types of people do you find easy to love? Difficult to love?
- What are some of your prejudices towards other people? Or, what kinds of people just really rub you the wrong way?
- What makes loving people so hard?
- Just like in the story of the Good Samaritan, if you were walking that dangerous road and saw a man in need, how do you think you would have responded? Explain.
- Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Practically speaking, how are you trying to express love in such a way that people can tell you follow Jesus?
- Dan challenged us to approach every person by asking God, "What is your heart for them? What are your hopes and dreams for them?" and then allowing our interactions with that person to be a representation of God's love in their lives. How might that change the way you interact with people? Give one practical example of how that could look in your life.
- In 1 Corinthians 13 we learned that we can be very religious and spiritual, but without love, people won't listen to us. In what ways does this explain experiences you've had?
- How did this past weekend's message challenge you/deepen your faith?
- What did this passage teach you about God? What did it teach you about yourself? How does this passage impact how you view God, yourself, or others?
- Which day from the daily work resonated with you most? Why? Which day challenged you most? Why?

Encouragement:

- What are some tangible ways you can love people (both those close to you *and* strangers) around you this week?
- What are some tangible ways we can, as a life group, love people in the coming weeks?

Accountability: *At this time, the group may want to split into smaller, gendered groups.*

- You are made in the image of God. Talk about what that means for you. Do you have any challenges, questions, doubts, or fears?
- What's one area of loving people you need to repent of and confess to God and others?
- What changes to your actions or attitude do you sense God calling you to? How can we be praying for you and hold you accountable week to week?

Spend time praying for the person to your right and their area of need. Pray that God, by the power of his Holy Spirit, would help them grow in their ability and capacity to love people in a way that honors God and draws them to his Kingdom.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, April 19, we're canceling regular services at The Creek to get out into our community and love our neighbors in a tangible way. As a part of **Serve Day**, we're praying 2000 people will take on practical projects, and hopefully through these acts of service, people's hearts will be opened to the love of Jesus.

Our hope is that life groups will choose to participate in Serve Day through DIY projects, so they are able to invest in relationships they've already established.

Be sure to check out thecreek.org/serveday for more information and ideas, but for now, begin **talking** and **praying** with your group about how you might be able to engage in The Creek's very first Serve Day.