

LOVE MATTERS:

Mark 12:28-34; Luke 10:25-37

The Question:

The Answer:

Getting Close To Getting it:

MAKE IT MATTER:

John 21:15-19, 1 Corinthians 13:1-7, John 13:35, John 15:9-12, 1 John 4:16

If you are made in the image of God - live like it.

If there is an eternity - live like it.

If love is an action - do something.

If love is an action - don't worry about how you feel.

Questions for this weeks' Life Groups

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Getting to know the people in your Life Group is a process that takes time. Be ready to share a comment that finishes this sentence, "When I was a kid, I remember liking it when..."

Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what did you find most challenging or interesting?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. In this week's Message Jeff encouraged us to live with eternity in mind. How does looking at our life with an eternal perspective affect our priorities, our time, and our relationships?

2. Jeff pointed out that loving God with everything we have and loving others requires action. It's more than going through the right motions and feeling a certain way. How does each of the following verses motivate you to keep loving even when you don't feel like it?

Psalms 145:17-20

Psalms 91:14-16

Deuteronomy 7:9

TAKING IT HOME

God's expectation for us can be boiled down to two inseparable assignments: Love God and love others. According to Jesus these are the two greatest commands for us to live by. What do Jesus' words to Peter in John 21:15-17 show us about our assignment here on earth? Keep in mind that Jesus was referring to His people when He used the word "sheep."

If Jesus were to ask you, "Do you love me?" how could you show Him your answer?

Looking at your comments for both questions above, which statements about who Jesus is and what He has done are most important for you to remember and why? Now take a few minutes and use your comments as a prayer guide to specifically thank God for who He is and what He has done for you.

PRAYER FOR MY GROUP:

1. Loving God and others could be a theme to focus on in your group this next quarter. Looking back at this week's teaching and study, how would you like to pray for yourself and your group in this area?

2. 1 Peter 1:22 encourages us to love each other sincerely and deeply from the heart. This sincere love can be fostered by knowing those that we love. Gary Chapman's book, *The Five Love Languages*, points out that God has wired us to give and receive love in different ways. His five love languages are: 1) words of affirmation, 2) quality time, 3) receiving gifts, 4) acts of service, and 5) physical touch. Which of those love languages is most natural for you to give? Which of them do you most like to receive?

Can you identify the primary love languages of those you are close to?