

Live Love
Week 1: Love God
August 22nd, 2021

OPENING PRAYER

Have someone in the group invite God's Holy Spirit into our presence. Pray for your encounter with God's Word. Ask God to open your heart and mind to some new understanding and especially to a new way of applying this truth in our daily lives.

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

~Safe Group	~Silence	~Sharing
~Confidentiality	~No Cross Talk	~Self-Aware
~Listen	~No Fixing	~"I" Statements
~Pause	~No Rescuing	~Handle Conflict Biblically

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

Go around the room and briefly share your answer to the following question:

Name an object or possession that you simply can't live without. Why?

INTRODUCTION

This week kicks off our Fall group season and the start of our new series **Live Love**. We are opening with a study titled simply "**Love God.**" We often say *you are loved, no matter what*. Our key question this week...is your love for God like His love for you? Is it absolute and unconditional? Can you say and mean – "God, you are loved, no matter what?" Our scripture is found in *Matthew 22: 34-40*.

THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:34-40

Read the passage: Have someone in your group read the passage of scripture as everyone else follows along in their Bible.

DISCUSSION:

Go around the room and share from your heart, remembering the group guidelines.

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURE:

- What do you notice in this text with new or fresh eyes?
- What do you struggle with?
- What surprises you?
- What encourages you?

ENGAGING THE MESSAGE:

- Why is the command to love God the “first and greatest commandment?”
- Are there times when you have difficulty-loving God?
- What are those seasons of life like, and how do you get through them?
- Are there conditions in your relationship with God, things you expect Him to do in order to receive your love?

LIVING IT OUT-APPLICATION:

- What would it take for you to give up your conditions, to learn to love God like He loves you - “No matter what?”

CLOSING PRAYER: Spend some time in prayer, pray for the season we are in, for those that may be affected, for the community, for our world. Pray for one another, for those that might be absent and for prayer requests.