

Unlocking Love
Week 1: Love
April 11th, 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:

When you think of generosity or someone who is very generous, who comes to mind?

INTRODUCTION

We begin a new series this week that has its foundation rooted in Jesus command to love each other. The title is ***Unlocking Love: 4 Keys to happy, healthy relationships***. What does that look like and how do we apply it to our spouses, parents, children, family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors? We begin this series with a study titled simply ***Love***. We are going to focus our time together on a passage of scripture found in *1 John 2:6-11*.

THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: 1 John 2:6-11

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:

- What might it look like to “live your life as Jesus did?”
- How did Jesus live the commandment to love one another?
- John writes not only that Jesus “lived the truth of this commandment” but that “you also are living it.” How do you see this at work in your life? In the lives of others in your group?
- Why do you think hatred of fellow believers is such a threat to the Body of Christ?

LIVING IT OUT-APPLICATION:

- Where have you seen Jesus this past week in your world (where you work live and play)

- **Think about someone you love - what could you give to the relationship this week that could make a difference in the health and happiness of that relationship?**

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.