



LESSON 2 // LIVING IN LOVE—PART 2

Big Idea: Love is the greatest gift you'll ever receive and the greatest gift you'll ever give. God is love (1 John 4:8) and loving others begins with experiencing His love in your life.

The transformation of your heart by God's love happens when you honestly admit your spiritual condition and need for Him and accept His way of salvation in Christ. It also involves growing in your understanding of what Jesus did for you and the personal love He has for you.

Romans 5:8 (NIV) *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Discussion Questions:

This weekend we learned that loving others starts with experiencing God's love in our lives. What part of the message spoke to you the most and why?

Why is it vital to receive God's love in order for us to love others effectively?

Read 1 John 4:18,19 in the TLB translation. How does knowing this truth affect your relationship with God? What challenges do you face in embracing this truth?

What are practical ways that we can intentionally grow in our understanding of what Jesus did for us?

We don't have to work for God's love and approval yet we can easily go through life trying to earn it. What are ways we try to earn God's love? What steps can you take (or have already taken) to move away from the mindset of "earning" God's love?

Of the declarations shared in the message, which do you struggle with believing most and why?

Prayer Focus:

Have your members break into groups of two. Have the pairs share with one another what challenges they face in receiving and believing God's unconditional love. Then, spend some time praying for one another's needs in these areas.

Leader Tip:

Challenge your group to spend time in open and honest confession with God this week. Receiving God's love and mercy is necessary in experiencing God's love in our lives. Follow-up at the next gathering by asking members to share the impact that this had on their perspective and relationships.