



Nov 15th, 2020
Love in Community

Relationships are one of the primary ways God grows us and shapes us. Read John 13:35. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is “not really” & 10 is “stand-out-obvious”, how well does your love identify you as a follower of Jesus?

Read 1 John 3:18-19. To grow in love we are to put it into practice in our lives. What types of barriers do you experience that prevent you from living in biblical community the way God calls us to?

Read Mark 12:30. Loving ourselves is connected to our ability to love others. In what ways do you struggle with receiving the love of God? What practices might help you to daily live out of a position God’s love?

Loving *courageously* in our relationships is one way we can grow. Read 1 John 4:18. Do you have relationships in your life where you can be authentically vulnerable? If you are comfortable, share a story of how God has used an experience of vulnerability in relationship to grow you.

Loving *universally* is another way we can grow in love. Read Matthew 5:44, Proverbs 25:21, Luke 6:27, 1 Thessalonians 5:15, Luke 23:34. Loving others who are different from us or who have hurt us can be very challenging. Our instinctual response can be to run or fight back, leading us away from love. How do we put universal love into practice? Share practical ways from your own life on how you have overcome evil with good.

Loving *sacrificially* in our relationships is another way we can grow in love. Read John 15:12-13, 1 John 3:16. Keeping God’s extraordinary bigger story in front of us helps us to personally love sacrificially. In your life, what sacrifices have you made or experienced in discipleship that God used for something great? (eg: mentoring someone who received Christ, etc)

Did you create a commitment card? What biblical principles on loving in community did you commit to?