



Compelled BY LOVE

Title: Compelled By Love

Date: June 12, 2022

WORSHIP: Sing one or two songs (either from YouTube, or someone leading worship). If you're in a public place, café or on video messaging, three to four people can share testimonies of answered prayers.

Q: What are you thankful to God about this past week?

Key Verses:

Main Text: "If we are "out of our mind," as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. "14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one (He) died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he (Christ) died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again." 2 Cor. 5:13-15 NIV

"With irresistible power limits us to the one great object to the exclusion of other considerations. The Greek implies to compress forcibly the energies into one channel. Love is jealous of any rival object engrossing the soul." Jamieson, R., Fausset, A. R., & Brown, D. (1997). *Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*

Leader's Notes:

1. Start and end on time.
2. Facilitate discussions.
3. Give all attendees opportunities to share. Encourage participation.
4. Remind everyone that whatever shared in the group will be kept within the group.
5. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit if there's someone who you can lead to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior and be born again.

WORK: The Challenge & Closing prayer

Q: How can we pray for you today?

Q: Who among your loved ones or friends you think need an encounter with Jesus today? Can you list at least five names?

Please take time in your smaller groups to pray for one another as well as pray for the names of people on your list. If there are specific needs, take time to lift them up to God in prayer as well.

WELCOME:

Intro: From the time Saul of Tarsus encountered the Lord to his death in Rome as Paul the Apostle, he was used by the Lord in many powerful ways. He continued serving those who do not know the true and living God, planted churches in many places where the gospel was not yet heard. With all these and more, Paul and his companions were considered "crazy." Even Christ-followers in Corinth were not sure of his sanity. Paul and his companions were considered crazy for God because of the love of Christ that moved them to such lifestyle and action.

Ice Breaker Questions:

1. What is your motivation to live for another day?

WORD & Discussion Questions:

1. The Love of Christ is a motivational force. v.14

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one (He) died for all, and therefore all died." 2 Cor.5:14

The Greek word for "compel" in this verse is *synechai*. It is a verb signifying control or pressure.

"It is the pressure applied not so much to control as to cause action. It is motivational rather than directional force." Kruse, C. G. (1987). *2 Corinthians: an introduction and commentary*; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

The compelling love of our Lord Jesus Christ is like a motivational pressure or force applied because it was displayed in His death on the cross to take our place. Christ's love, therefore can inspire us to do great things in His name for the good of others. As Paul said in v.14, because of His great love, Christ died for all of us ("*died for all*" in Greek is "hyper panton" meaning "*instead of or in place of*"). Jesus loves you and me that He died in our place.

Q: What is your primary motivation for living (fulfill my purpose, live to my fullest potential, etc.)?

2. The Love of Christ makes us focus on what matters –

The Greek word *synechai* also meant – "to hold together that implies focusing the energies into one channel."

With this knowledge and experience of the kind of love Jesus demonstrated on the cross of Calvary, Paul lived compelled by Christ's love, focused his all in loving Jesus back and loving others with the same love He was loved.

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"And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again." 2 Corinthians 5:15

Q: What is your focus in life (family, ministry, career, calling, health, etc.)?

Conclusion:

To live compelled by love, we must know the love of Jesus by both head and heart. When we truly know what His love is all about, our lifestyle will testify to the truth. Our whole life will be about loving others with the love we are loved by God with, laying down our life for others for the purpose and glory of God and by the grace and power of Christ. Do you want this kind of life?

Application: This week, think about what matters most in your life and find practical ways how you can prioritize doing something about them.