

GROW YOUR HEART YOUR IMPACT



Title: HOW TO GROW YOUR HEART FULL OF LOVE?

Date: February 26, 2023

WORSHIP:

Option 1: In person gathering — assign someone to lead in worship or play two praise & worship songs from YouTube.

Option 2: Online gathering , at a public place, at the park, school campus or café — Ask three to four people to share testimonies of answered prayers or ask the question: What are you thankful to God about this past week?

Main Text:

18"May you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. 19May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully (that surpasses knowledge). Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." **Ephesians 3:18-19 NLT**

Quote:

"We can know God's love - out of our encounters with God through prayer and meditation of His word, even and especially during difficult

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

WELCOME: Greet everyone. Introduce yourself. Acknowledge guests/first-time visitors. Ask the group to take turns introducing themselves.

Ice-breaker Joke:-)

"Good Sermon!"

After a very long and boring sermon the parishioners filed out of the church saying nothing to the preacher. Towards the end of the line was a thoughtful person who always commented on the sermons.

"Pastor, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and love of God!" The pastor was thrilled. "No-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before.

Tell me why." "Well - it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding and the Love of God because it endured forever!"

Thought: That person displayed patience and love to his/her pastor.

WORD:

The key to maximizing our Kingdom impact on earth is by growing our hearts with the love of God! Right now, let's ask ourselves what's inside your heart? Is it full of love? Is it full of God's love? If it's not, what do you think is your heart full of?

1. Let God love you— Read Ephesians 3:18

Lesson: Many people today cannot understand the love of God displayed through His Son Jesus Christ! People ask, "If God really does love me, I don't understand why is this happening to me? Why does He allow these things to happen in my life? God wants you and me to know - Especially during our lowest (loneliest) point, God wants us to let Him love and care for us.

Read: 1 Peter 5:7 NLT, Matthew 5:4, 1 John 4:19

Discussion Questions:

A. Have you ever questioned yourself about God's love?

B. If so, would you like to share your reason/s why you questioned God?

Application: Would you close your eyes and reflect on these thoughts?

Whatever we are going through, whatever challenges, difficulties, trials we are facing today – God's Word is telling us that we are loved by God!

If we have many unanswered questions why things are happening in our lives that we don't (or cannot) understand, still God wants us to know that He loves us and we today we are being reminded that we are loved by God! Would you allow Him to love you today? God is inviting us to come to Him and experience His love.

2. Surround yourself with loving people— Read: Matthew 9:35-38 NLT

Lesson: The disciples followed Jesus and saw and heard His compassion for people. In the process, Jesus involved them to pray and "harvest" with Him. Surrounding ourselves with loving people is critical too to transforming us into becoming loving as well. We become who we associate ourselves with most of the time.

Discussion Questions:

A. How do you cope during times of difficulties and struggles, to whom do you go first for encouragement and support?

B. Can you identify your spiritual support (faith-filled people who surround you during tough times)?

Application: Some things we can do to be surrounded with love:

- Be committed to a loving Christian community (local church, life group, etc.)
- Volunteer in an organization that serves the poor and needy (Siloam or Light-house Mission)

- Join the mission trip to Dream Center on July 30 – August 6, 2023. Ask the church office for more info.

3. Share the love you receive—Read: Matthew 10:7-9 NIV

Lesson: When we do not share with others what we graciously receive from God, we forfeit the greater joy of being a blessing by God to others. We have two hands, one to receive and one to give, as His blessings flow through there'll be plenty for us to enjoy. If we want a never-ending flow of God's love, life, and blessing, then we must freely share what God has graciously.

Discussion Questions:

A. Based on Matthew 10:7-9, do you think you have the faith to **heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons?**

B. When was the last time God-performed a miracle using you as a vessel for others?

Application: Who do you know that God wants you to be His vessel of encouragement, healing and miracle today? Would you pray about it?

Conclusion:

Paul encouraged every believer that we can experience the love of God even though it is too great to fully understand! What a privilege! If we are willing to grow in knowing His love and share it in a consistent manner, we will see its power at work in us and through us. People will see and experience the love that they are longing for so long. When we experience firsthand God's **L.A.F.** (Love, Acceptance, and Forgiveness), there's a big opportunity we will become loving towards God and those around us.

WORK: The Challenge & Closing prayer

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