

ReFocus Guide: Living Like Jesus With Others

Focus:

Following Jesus is never meant to be a solo journey. Jesus teaches that love is the defining mark of discipleship and that this love is learned and practiced in community. This week invites us to notice how God shapes us through relationships, shared life, and mutual encouragement so that Christ's love becomes visible among us.

Day 1: Jesus Defines Love

Scripture: John 13:34-35

Reflection:

On the night before the cross, Jesus gives a clear command. Love one another just as he has loved us. This kind of love is not rooted in comfort or convenience, but in self-giving grace. Jesus tells us that love is how others will recognize his disciples. Before love is something we do, it is something we receive from Christ and learn to live out together.

Questions:

What stands out to you about the way Jesus defines love? Where do you find it easy to love others? Where do you find it more difficult? How is God working within you to help you to love where it is difficult?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for loving me first. Teach me to love others as You have loved me, with grace, patience, and humility. Amen.

Day 2: Love is Practiced in Community

Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

Reflection:

The early believers learned to love by sharing life together. They prayed together, ate together, supported one another, and cared for those in need. Love was not an idea they discussed, but a way of life they practiced. Community became the place where faith grew and God's presence was made known.

Questions:

What do you notice about how the early church lived together? Where have you experienced faith growing

through community? What part of shared life feels most meaningful to you right now?

Prayer:

God, thank You for placing me in community. Help me show up with openness and care, trusting that You shape us as we grow together. Amen.

Day 3: Love Requires Patience and Humility

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1–6

Reflection:

Living in community is both a gift and a challenge. Paul reminds us that love requires humility, gentleness, patience, and a willingness to bear with one another. These qualities do not come naturally, but they are formed as we choose to remain connected even when it is difficult. God uses these moments to shape our hearts.

Questions:

Which quality do you find yourself needing most right now, humility, patience, gentleness, or understanding? Where might God be inviting you to respond differently in a relationship? What helps you remain connected when relationships feel challenging?

Prayer:

God, shape my heart with humility and patience. Help me love others with grace, especially when it feels difficult. Amen.

Day 4: Love is Rooted in Hope, Not Fear

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:9–11

Reflection:

Paul reminds the church that they are destined for salvation, not fear. Because of this hope, they are called to encourage one another and build each other up. Love grows best when it is rooted in hope. When we trust what God has promised, we are freed to support and strengthen one another.

Questions:

Where do you notice fear affecting your relationships? How does hope in Christ change the way you relate to others? Who might need encouragement from you this week?

Prayer:

God of hope, thank You for the life You offer through Christ. Help me live with confidence and encourage others with Your love. Amen.

Day 5: A Prayer for Inner Renewal

Scripture: Colossians 3:13–15

Reflection:

Paul names forgiveness, patience, and love as essential for life together. Love binds the community and allows Christ's peace to guide our relationships. We are not called to avoid conflict, but to live in ways that allow grace and peace to shape how we respond to one another.

Questions:

Where might forgiveness bring healing to a relationship? What does it look like for Christ's peace to guide your interactions? How can love shape the way you engage with others?

Prayer:

God, help me live with forgiveness and love. Let Your peace guide my words and actions so my life reflects Your grace. Amen.

Closing Prayer:

God of love, thank You for shaping me through relationships and shared life. Continue to form my heart so that patience, humility, and grace grow within me. When community feels challenging, remind me of Your love and peace. May my life with others reflect the love of Christ each day. Amen.