

WEEK 2—BE LOVING (CONTINUED)

ICE BREAKERS

- ⇒ Play a little game. Answer this question: I love _____ (fill in the blank with what you love!)
- ⇒ So how do people know that you love these things as people?

FOUR STEPS TO BEING A MORE LOVING PERSON

1. You must experience God's love for yourself.

Read John 4:19

- ⇒ Why do you love?
- ⇒ How do you experience God's love? In what ways?

NOTE: We first experience "Agape" Godly love through prevenient grace—a grace that woos you unto Jesus, trying to bring you to the point of salvation.

- ⇒ What happened to you when you were saved? Who entered into your heart?
- ⇒ Is God love? Did He not enter your heart?
- ⇒ What's the job of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

NOTE: The Holy Spirit is about mass producing love in our lives, love for God/others.

Read Galatians 5:22-23

- ⇒ What is the fruit of the Spirit? (The Holy Spirit works over time in our lives to produce love).
- ⇒ Can we choose not to clothe ourselves in love?
- 2. You must forgive those who hurt you.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:5

⇒ What does this say about forgiveness?

Read Colossians 3:13

- ⇒ Do we have to "bear each other" at times?
- ⇒ What does it mean to "forgive as the Lord forgave you"?
- ⇒ Do people really deserve for you to forgive them?
- ⇒ Do you really deserve to be forgiven?

Read 2 Corinthians 2:7-8





NOTE: True forgiveness is not just saying we forgive someone. It is showing them we forgive them.

- ⇒ What did Paul mean by "comfort them"?
- ⇒ What did he mean by "affirm your love to them"?
- 3. You must think loving thoughts.

Read Philippians 2:4-5.

- ⇒ What does it mean to think loving thoughts?
- Do certain people bring up negative thoughts?
- ⇒ How do you change negative thoughts into positive?

NOTE: Paul says focus on the "interests of others", their hurts, needs, pains, desires, goals, etc. In other words, change your negative thoughts to positive and look at how you can help them.

- ⇒ Do we practice this?
- 4. You must act in a loving way.

Read Luke 6:27-28.

- ⇒ Study these statements. What did Jesus mean?
 - 1. "Love your enemies." Read Romans 12:20-21
 - 2. "Do good to those that hate you."

How do we do this?

3. "Bless those that curse you." NOTE: a blessing is a positive word spoken to us about someone.

Is there power in words?

Read Proverbs 12:18 Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

APPLICATION

3 x 3 Challenge (P.I.E.)

Pray for 3 Invite 3 **Encourage 3**

Make your list now.



