



Life Group Lesson

Lesson #3

There is an invitation for us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Part of how we do that is to step into choosing to engage Him with various aspects of our lives. It is in that place of knowing God that we're able to sustain in this world.

Today's life group lesson helps us to engage with understanding and stepping into the love of the Father and to develop further steps in how to grow in our ability to stay in the presence with the Father.

Looking Back

FAMILY TIME (20 min)

- Vision Statement: Have a group member explain the vision of your lifegroup. Invite another group member to share your vision piece next time.
- Intro Question: What is your most common or favorite way to engage with God?
- Prayer Requests, Praise Reports and Updates from previous week(s).

Look Up

WORSHIP (30 min)

- During this season, we want to spend more time engaging in God's presence. If you have somebody who can lead, we encourage you to invite them in to lead. If you'd like to use YouTube, here are a few longer sets that have more space for spontaneous worship that will give you space to engage with God's heart.
- Today, we encourage your group to continue to practice different ways of engaging with your body and spirit using the 7 Hebrew Words of Praise (<u>found here</u>).
 - O Taste and See + Undignified + Spontaneous (22 min)
 - <u>Draw Me Close + You're Worthy of My Praise</u> (8 min)

^{**}Encourage your group members to engage God's heart for one another during worship and share any affirmations or words of encouragement they receive with





each other as Holy Spirit leads. One strategic way to do this on Zoom is through the private message function while worship is ongoing.

Bible Study: Passage - Ephesians 3:14-21 (NIV)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Questions:

- What's something that stands out to you?
- What do we learn about God/God's heart?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does it tell us about what it means to grow in loving God?
- What does it look like to obey this passage?

Looking Forward

1) Ephesians 3 is known as an "apostolic prayer". Apostolic prayers are prayers that we saw either Jesus or the apostles pray in the New Testament. We are also able to pray these together. Because they're in God's word, we know they're His heart for us!

Take 10-15 minutes to pray through Ephesians 3 over your group. You can have your group to either go line by line, or choose one or two lines that





stand out to them, and pray out of that verse. You can pray directly from the passage, or pray anything that stirs up based on the verses in the passage. Keep going as a group, encouraging people to build off other people's prayers.

- 2) In small groups, break up, and share what areas might the Lord be inviting you to step more into loving Him? What might practically it look like to engage in loving God more this week?
 If your lifegroup did last week's lifegroup curriculum out of John 15, also spend some time following up on what you shared last week.
- 3) Encourage members to check out various resources we are posting each week for this series at https://epicentre.org/resources. Ask them to try out some of them, and come back and share how God met them as they create more space to encounter Him.

Kids Lesson

Bible Study: Passage - Ephesians 3:17B-19 (ICB)

17b I pray that your life will be strong in love and be built on love. **18** And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love. I pray that you can understand how wide and how long and how high and how deep that love is. **19** Christ's love is greater than any person can ever know. But I pray that you will be able to know that love. Then you can be filled with the fullness of God.

Questions:

- From our passage, what does God want our life to be built on?
- What's so amazing about God's love?
- How does it make you feel when you are loved?
- What's interesting about this passage is that God's love is EVEN BIGGER and He wants YOU to know about it! Now do you want to know and experience this type of love God is talking about?
- If you said YES then what's one way we can come to know/understand about God's big love?





*One way of knowing this love is through prayer. God's heart is to reveal this love to us! He wants you to know about it so that you can be filled with it! He also wants you to know about this love because others need to know and experience this love. Who knows maybe one day you'll be the source of love to others:)