

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK ONE: "LOVE IS NORMAL" | JOHN 13:34-35

SERIES OVERVIEW

Christians sometimes give an impression that they are not to be bothered, even amongst fellow Christians, by things that seem to mess up their put together worlds. However, God's people have been changed by his Spirit and what was once abnormal—loving sacrificially—is now normal. It is a love that acts, sacrifices and desires the highest good for others. It is the mark of which Jesus said others would know we are his followers. This love is the authenticating mark of a Christian. This love is normal.

THIS WEEK

We'll focus on the command of God to love on another. What makes this command new? How we are to obey this command. What effect does this command have on the world and us? We want to get this command right, because it's the way people will know we are followers of Christ. As such, what does that mean we believe and do as a result of such love? Finally, what does it look like if we don't have love?

ICE BREAKER

If you had your closest family or friends around you, and you could tell them one thing, what would you tell them?

READ: JOHN 13:1-35

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How is the love that Jesus loved us with different than the love that the world wants us to have?

- 2. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Which one of Paul's descriptions of love is the easiest for you and hardest for you to demonstrate?
- 3. What types of people are you prone not to love?
- 4. According to John 13:1, at what point do we quit loving each other?
- 5. When was a time in your life that you wanted to quit loving someone?
- 6. If you believed and received God's thorough and complete love for you, how would that affect the way you love others?
- 7. Very few of us fail to believe God's perfect love. Why do most of us, more specifically you, feel like you're unworthy of this love?