

Discipleship Group Session #3

SERVE THE CHURCH

This is the third of four studies your Discipleship Group will use. The purpose of this study is to grow your love and service to both God's people and the church. We all need other Christians to help us grow spiritually. Sometimes the busyness of life or our own jadedness keep us from building those meaningful relationships. In addition to the benefit we receive, God has also called us to contribute to the health and advancement of His Church. In this study you will learn why it's important to love other Christians, how you can uniquely serve the church, and key next steps to pursue both these ends.

LOOKING BACK

1. How are you doing with your specific commitment you made at the last meeting to develop your devotion to Christ?
2. To what degree is your delight in the Lord matching your new devotion to the Lord?

LOOKING UP

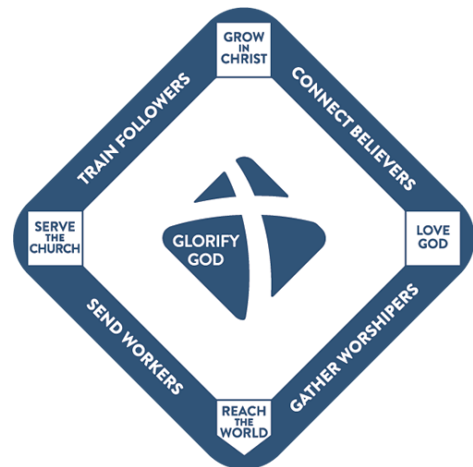
OPENING QUESTION

3. What is a way you have served others that personally brought you great joy?

READ: John 13:34-35

EXPLORE

4. Who is Jesus speaking to in this passage? What is the setting?
5. What is the new commandment Jesus gave to His disciples?
6. In what specific way did Jesus just demonstrate love to His disciples?
7. What will result from the disciples fulfilling this radical love with one another?



DISCUSS

8. What has influenced how you define a "loving relationship?" Family? Friends? Media? God's Word? Why is it important that only God's Word tell us what loving relationships look like?
9. Share the various ways Jesus has demonstrated love for us and what that means for the way we are to love one another.
10. How is it that our witness for Christ among unbelievers is influenced by our love for other Christians? Can you give a specific example of a time when your love or lack of love influenced an unbeliever?
11. In what ways has your love for the church grown or been challenged over the years?
12. Why is it important that we serve the church?

LOOKING FORWARD

APPLY

13. In what way(s) are you currently connected to the church? How is this helping you grow spiritually?
14. In what way(s) are you currently serving the church? How is this helping others grow spiritually?
15. What do you think are your spiritual gift(s)? How can these gifts be used to serve others?

COMMIT

16. What is a practical way God is calling you to love someone this week as a result of this study?

PRAY

17. Pray for God to grow your love for others and to find a specific way this week you can serve someone.