

All the Way

Community Group

John 15:9-16 /// Week of March 26

Today's big idea: holiness is obedience and love.

- Review the Community Group Guidelines together.
- Share with the group when you first fell in love with your spouse. If you are single, share about your first love or first crush. How did you know it was love or what attracted you to that person?
- Someone pray that God would help us hear from him.

Head

- Use the Bible Storytelling technique to tell the story of loving your enemies.
- Retell the story together as a group.
- Read the story from John 15:9-16 in the Bible.
- What lessons about love come from this text?
- What lessons about obedience come from this text?
- What is the distinction between servant and friend?

Heart

- How are you doing when it comes to remaining or abiding in God's love? What helps the most or keeps you from it?
- Servant, friend, chosen, appointed: which role do you connect with most, which role do you connect with the least, and why?

Hands

- As a group, list out several ways that you could "lay down your life" in order to love those around you.
- How is God challenging you to live holy and love others?
- Close in prayer together.

Community Group Member Covenant

- I will make attendance a priority in my schedule and involvement a priority in my participation.
- I will build trust by holding in confidence those things shared in the Community Group.
- I will engage with a disciple maker—someone that will help me grow as a disciple of Jesus and teach me how to be a disciple maker as well.



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COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDELINES

Confidentiality

Keeping things that are shared in the group confidential builds trust and shows value to the person. Confidentiality can prevent gossip that only values the story; Jesus always valued the person above their story or their sin.

Don't Rescue & Don't Fix

When someone is sharing something deeply personal and/or painful there can be a tendency to try and make them feel better about themselves or the situation. Often this will cause people to stop sharing and results in their not going as deep as they might have gone. Resist the temptation to rescue people. Try to hear what people are sharing without trying to fix them. If they want your advice, they will ask for it. You may want to take time later to ask if you can offer some advice.

No Crosstalk

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. Don't have side conversations. Trust is built in the moments when everyone feels like they are being listened to and heard by the entire group. Treat others in the group as you would want to be treated.

Use Humor Responsibly

Fun is an essential part of Small Groups; however, when meeting in the Biblical Storytelling time keep sarcastic comments, jokes and laughter to a minimum to allow for an atmosphere of authenticity and vulnerability.

Give Everyone a Chance to Share

Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Encourage everyone to participate in group discussions.

Use "I" Statements

During small group, we want to hear your personal thoughts and perspectives. Using "I" statements to answer discussion questions allows you to speak for yourself rather than generalizing by using terms such as "them", "the church", "us" or "we".

Fight for Relationship

Relationships reaches a whole new level when conflict is resolved in a healthy manner. When conflict or sin issues arise between group members, commit to fight for the relationship and discuss the struggle with the person you are in conflict with or seek wise advice.