



Love & Respect

How to Build Deep, Intimate Relationships - Part 1

Discussion Guide

Love & Respect is a series built upon setting the foundation of learning to love God, love people, and love ourselves the way we are taught to throughout the Bible. We will learn how to make God's love more evident in our lives and live this way day in and day out, so we can take our next step in molding our lives to be more like Jesus.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God's truth, and apply it to our week.

1. Who was your best friend as a child?
2. **Read [Matthew 22:37-40](#)**. How is the first commandment as well as the one set alongside next to it similar in ways? How do we know how to love God, love people, as well as ourselves accurately? What are some examples we can find of this kind of love? What is one way we can better love God, love people, and love ourselves?
3. **Read [Colossians 3:12-13](#)**. Why does Paul tell us to put on these traits instead of saying have these traits? Which of these traits do you struggle with the most? How can you focus on putting on that trait this week?
4. **Read [Colossians 3:5-8](#)**. What do these verses challenge us to do? How can we cut off everything that leads to death?
5. Final Thought: **Read [Colossians 3:14-15](#)**. What does it mean to put on love? How can loving more effectively really change a scenario and create harmony? How are you showing someone the kind of love that they cannot find anywhere else, except from the Jesus that is shining through you? What can you do this week to show others this kind of love?

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

6. **Read [Matthew 14:14](#)**. Why did Jesus have such great compassion on the people that He saw? Can Jesus, though not here anymore, still heal the sick? And if He still can, then why do we lack the confidence of His power when we pray?

7. **Read [Mark 12:38-40](#)**. Who do you believe Jesus is talking about in these verses? How do we stay away from the trap of becoming like the people Jesus was talking about? Have we ever accidentally fell into that trap? Did these people represent the same love that Jesus did?

8. **Read [Genesis 17:17-22](#) and [Genesis 18:10-15](#)**. Why did God make Sarah and Abraham wait so long for Isaac to be born, was there anything to benefit from this? When have you ever doubted God for a promise He made? What do you think He is trying to teach you while you are waiting? Are you worshipping God like the promise has already been given to you?