



Belong

Part 2 – Love as the Default Discussion Guide

Jesus loved people in different ways. For some He took time, some He served, some He listened to, and some He challenged. He gave Himself fully, even to the point of dying on the cross. Let's learn this week how to love like Jesus.

What you will need: A Bible or your Bible app, a notebook, pen, and highlighter. The verses highlighted below are linked so that you can easily access them during your study time.

Jump Start

1. Share with your group your own baptism story. (How did you come to making the decision to be baptized? Where were you baptized? What were the emotions you were feeling before and after?)
2. Read [1 John 2:6](#). How did Jesus live? How do we know we are abiding and living like Jesus?
3. Read [1 John 2:7-8](#), [1 John 2:9-10](#), and [John 13:34](#). What is John trying to teach in these verses? Who are we to love? How does the action of loving someone you disagree with identify you as a follower of Christ? How does this differ from the ways of the world?
4. Read [Isaiah 64:8](#). What area of your heart is God still working on? What are the trigger subjects that you are asking God to heal? **Pray. Surrender. Love God's way over the world's way.**

Lord, I surrender my whole life to you: the past, the present, and the future. Holy Spirit, You are welcome here in this place and in my life. Heal my heart, oh God. I surrender it all. Dear Heavenly Father, grant us the serenity of mind to accept that which cannot be changed; courage to change that which can be changed; and wisdom to know the one from the other. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, help me to love as You love. Amen.

5. Memorize This Passage: [1 Corinthians 13:4-8](#)

Deeper

Here at The Cove, our mission is to Introduce our friends to Jesus, Learn to follow Him, and Celebrate His Presence in our lives. We want you to be fully equipped with the Word of God by spending time with Him daily through prayer, and through studying His Word with others. We believe this is how you will be equipped to make disciples.

6. Read [John 3:16](#). What does verse 16 tell us about God and His attitude towards man?
 - a. What did God's love for the world lead Him to do? Who is the one who is acting on behalf of man?
 - b. When you realize that Jesus came to die and that God sent Him for that purpose, does that help you understand God's love for man? In what way does that help you understand God's love for you individually?
 - c. What does the Bible tell us about God and His love? ([1 John 4:7-21](#)) Based on God's love for us, how should we live?

7. Read [John 3:17](#). Why did God send Jesus into the world? What is God's ultimate goal for every person? ([2 Peter 3:9](#))
 - a. In verse 17, what is the state of the world without Jesus? What does it mean to be condemned?
 - b. For a world filled with sin and disobedience, what kind of a response would you expect from God? How did He respond? ([Romans 5:6- 8 and Romans 8:1](#))
 - c. What do people outside the kingdom of God say about why Jesus came into the world? What would you say to someone who doesn't understand why Jesus came?