

why church?

The Building of a New Community

Ice Breaker: Who is the most loving person you know?

Read: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, 1 John 3:1-3, 1 John 4:7-16, 1 Corinthians 13:8-13, Ephesians 4:11-16

Discussion Questions:

- Opening Thoughts
 - Do you remember a time you did something good...but with the wrong intention?
- Loving Intentionally (1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 1 John 3:1-3)
 - What are some acts Paul mentions in 1 Corinthians 13 that can be done without love?
 - According to these verses, what is the result of serving, giving, or leading without love?
 - What does 1 John 3 teach us about God's love toward us?
 - What is one area of ministry, service, or relationship where God may be inviting you to renew your motives?
- Loving Clearly (1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 1 John 4:7-16)
 - Which characteristics of love in 1 Corinthians 13 stand out to you the most?
 - What does 1 John 4 teach us about the source of love?
 - How is the love of Christ different from the way our culture often defines love?
 - Which aspect of love listed by Paul comes most naturally to you? Which is most challenging?
 - Why is it important that our understanding of love is shaped by Jesus rather than personal preference?
- Loving Strongly (1 Corinthians 13:8-13)
 - According to Paul, what things will eventually pass away, and what remains?
 - What does it mean that love "never fails" and why do you think Paul emphasizes love?
 - How does love help protect a church from division, conflict, and disunity?
 - Is there anyone you need to forgive, pursue, encourage, and/or reconcile with?
- Closing Thoughts (Ephesians 4:11-16)
 - What roles and gifts does God give the church in this passage, and what is its aim to achieve?
 - What is one practical way you can express God's love through serving, generosity, encouragement, or discipleship this week/month?

Share prayer requests and close in prayer.

