



WHAT IS *Love?*

GO FURTHER | FEBRUARY 20 | WHAT LOVE IS

START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- READ 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7
- WHAT WORDS OR PHRASES STAND OUT TO YOU?
- IS THIS KIND OF LOVE SELF-CENTERED OR OTHERS-CENTERED? IS THIS EASY TO DO?
- LOVE, LIKE JESUS LOVES US, IS WORK. WHICH ONE OF THE ACTIONS IN THE SCRIPTURE IS THE HARDEST FOR YOU TO LIVE OUT?

START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Is this kind of love self-centered or others-centered? Is this easy to do?
- Love, like Jesus loves us, is work. Which one of the actions in the Scripture is the hardest for you to live out?

START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- Read the passage again but invert the meaning of each action (love is impatient and rude, etc.)
- What words or phrases stand out to you?
- We are wired to love like this due to sin, missing the mark, in our lives. How can we grow into the kind of love Paul challenges us to practice?
- Methodists believe we can make love our first reaction, patience our first response. What spiritual disciplines (prayer, Scripture reading, service, etc.) help you to grow closer to Jesus to respond more like he does?
- Love is not only work but it is risky. We can be separated from our loved ones by choices and death. Why do we risk loving anyone or anything?
- What is one way you can show love in the way of Jesus and Paul to those around you this week?

START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

Lord Jesus, we confess it is very difficult to move from a self-centered love to a selfless love. May your Holy Spirit invade us and transform us from the inside out. We want to be a people that respond with love and patience first, not bitterness and apathy. Open our eyes to the way we can love others better this week. In your resurrected name we pray together, Amen.

START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- For more on 1st Corinthians, check out this 4-day devotional: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/22744-book-of-1-corinthians>

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