

John 13:34: So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other.

Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

Connecting Group questions

1. Reflect on the message: What impacted you most from Sunday's message?
 - a. Who are the hardest "neighbors" for you to love? (literal?, home?, work?, etc.)
 - b. What is God saying to you about your life?

2. Read Luke 10:25-37.
 - a. So you are called by God to be a Samaritan . . . how might you be a Samaritan in your community?
 - b. Samaritan love is a "whenever and wherever" type of love. Identify a time when you have showed such love.
 - c. Why is it difficult to show compassion and love?

3. Reflect together on how you dealt with Samaritan situations – how you processed the situation, how you responded, whether or not you think you did what Jesus called you to do, and what you could have done differently.

4. Reflect on this statement: *A loving God fosters a loving people.* – Brennan Manning

5. Imagine in your mind a situation that might occur in the next day or two where you can respond in Samaritan-style love. Commit yourself now to be a person of love.

6. Take some time to pray for you, your group's, and this church. Take time to pray for each other's spiritual development this week.

Prayer for the week:

Father, show us the vastness of your love. Awaken in us a sensitivity to others. May your love flow through us to those in our neighborhoods. Awaken us to live for loving you and others. In Jesus name, Amen.

Quotes:

"Love doesn't sound so dangerous until you've tried it." – Paul Wadell