



Outward Group Discussion Guide

June 28, 2026

SUMMARY

This sermon emphasizes that authentic Christian faith must have an outward expression, challenging believers to move beyond self-centered living to a life focused on reaching the lost. Pastor Matt explains that the gospel transforms both the direction and motivation of our lives, moving us from inward focus to outward mission. The foundation is built on the dual commandment to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. The church exists not primarily for the comfort of believers, but to connect lost people with the love of Jesus. This requires intentionality, disruption of traditional church models, and a burden for those who don't know Christ. The sermon calls the congregation to unity around this vision and challenges individuals to identify where God is placing a burden on their hearts for specific people or ministries.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the concept of being a 'conduit of God's love' challenge your current approach to relationships with coworkers, family members, and strangers?
2. Pastor Matt describes a burden for lost people that weighed on him until he had to act. What burden, if any, has God placed on your heart that you might be ignoring or postponing?
3. The sermon contrasts self-love as motivation versus selfless love flowing from Christ. How can you identify whether your good deeds are rooted in self-interest or genuine love from God?
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5. Jesus says loving your neighbor is inseparable from loving God. Why do you think it's impossible to truly love God while hating or neglecting the people around you?
6. The pastor challenges the idea that faith can be purely private. In what ways have you treated your faith as a personal matter rather than something with outward expression?

7. When you consider the categories of hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, and imprisoned from Matthew 25, which group of people does God seem to be putting in your path right now?
8. Outward Church intentionally creates environments for non-believers rather than for existing Christians. How does this priority challenge your expectations of what church should provide for you personally?
9. The sermon mentions being willing to be misunderstood for the sake of reaching lost people. What traditions or preferences might you need to set aside to more effectively share the gospel with others?
10. C.S. Lewis said humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less. How would your daily decisions change if you adopted this mindset consistently?
11. Pastor Matt asks if your faith spigot is on full blast or just a slow drip. What would it look like for the love of God to flow through you at full capacity in your current circumstances?