Message Based Questions - 2/2/20

Be Different: Part 1 "Love"

Verses: James 2:14-17, Galatians 5:13-23, Matthew 22:37-40, 1 Corinthians 13:3,13

ICE BREAKER:

Which of the 5 love languages communicate love the most clearly to you? As a reminder, they are Acts of Service, Gifts, Quality Time, Physical Touch and Words of Affirmation.

Discuss the statement: "We as Christ followers are called to be wildly different than the dominant culture." Share your thoughts.

Do some research on the book of Galatians. Answer the following:

- Who wrote it?
- To whom was it written?
- When was it written?
- What is the style?
- What's the central theme?

How does our key verse, Galatians 5:13-23, flow out of the meaning and message of Galatians (see Gal 3:25-26)? How does this text fit into the larger narrative of the Bible (creation, fall, redemption, restoration)?

Discuss what you know about fruit bearing. What can a plant do to produce good fruit? What part does abiding in the True Vine (Jesus) play? See John 15.

Agape love is unconditional (Romans 5:8), sacrificial (John 15:13), and continual (Romans 8:38-39). Read these verses and personalize them. Have you experienced and received this love from God?

What are the obstacles to loving God and loving others? How do we overcome the obstacles?

What is your one take-away as a result of this message and discussion? Share it with your group and pray for the Holy Spirit's power to transform the way we love God and one another.