

Sermon Discussion Questions

Love God. Love People. Period – Ryan Finney
15 February 2026
Sermon Text: Matthew 22:34-40

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20-30 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week, in his message entitled **Love God. Love People. Period**, Ryan explores the idea that when things are wrong at the foundation level, no amount of cosmetic or aesthetic fixes will solve the problem. Throughout his message, Ryan comes back to the question, “What foundation are you building on?” Let’s dive in and find out what happens when our foundation is built on love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to take some time and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a “Holy Should” statement you have made to yourself, others, or our leaders. Did the Holy Spirit reveal anything to you? Did that revelation prompt you to ask forgiveness from someone? How did that go?
2. What is something that stood out to you from Ryan’s message this week?
3. When you think about your faith right now, does it feel steady or heavy? What makes you say that?
4. The sermon talks about fixing surface issues versus addressing the foundation. Where do you notice yourself trying to manage behavior instead of tending to your heart?
5. When you’re under pressure or stress, what usually comes out of you first? And what do you think it reveals about what your faith is resting on?
6. What’s in your “backpack” right now? What are you carrying that feels good and important, but heavy?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. What song is currently at the top of your playlist?
2. What is one of your go-to sayings? (ie. The grass is always greener ...) Why?
3. What one piece of advice would the current you give to a younger you?

7. Why do you think it's hard for many of us to let others (or Jesus) help carry our burdens?

8. Jesus says everything hangs on loving God and loving others. Which of those feels harder for you in this season, and why?

APPLICATION

Take some time this week and see what you are building your life and your faith upon. Be honest with yourself. Are you tired of trying to hold it all together? If so, maybe your problem isn't a motivation issue, but rather a foundation issue. Ask the Holy Spirit if you need to adjust the foundation on which you are building.

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on, click on the NWC App, the website <https://nwckc.com>, or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Sermon study questions can also be found in all three locations.

The Call – Men's Breakfast, 21 February, 9:00-11:00 am, New Wine Church Building, 7102 N. Prospect Ave, Gladstone, MO. Men are invited to The Call – Men's Breakfast, a special gathering for men to connect, grow, and be refreshed. There will be powerful ministry, heartfelt prayer, and an inspiring devotion to encourage you in your walk. And don't worry about breakfast—food will be provided, so come hungry and ready for fellowship. Don't miss this opportunity to recharge and strengthen your faith alongside other men! See you there!

FINAL THOUGHT

The law of Christ is the law of love.