

Sermon Discussion Questions

Fruit of the Spirit: Love – Matt Slocum
4 April 2024
Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 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 Matt discusses the **Fruit of the Spirit: Love**. Love is the center of everything for Christianity. In this message, we find out that *Agape (love)* is defined by the life and teachings of Jesus. Let's dive in and explore what it means to be loved, and to love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to reflect and see if you were living a life in the Spirit or in the Flesh. Did anything come to you from your reflection? This is a perfect time to allow yourself to be open and vulnerable to your group and share with them.
2. Was there something that really jumped out at you from the message this week?
3. The imposter of kindness is being nice. The imposter of love is tolerance. What do you think about these statements? How are tolerance and love at odds with each other? (Hint: one is inward focused and the other is focused outward). What does the world say about love and tolerance? How does what the world says hold up to the Truth?
4. Read Luke 19:1-7. What do we learn about love from this story of Zacchaeus? How did Jesus show love to Zacchaeus? Do you think you would have reacted the same way Jesus did? Why or why not?
5. "Jesus' love is neither permissive nor conditional. It expects and enables obedience but doesn't require obedience as its prerequisite". What do you think about this statement? Are there times when our love requires a prerequisite?

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. Iced tea or lemonade on a hot day?
2. Would you make a good storm-chaser? Why?
3. If you plant a garden, what is one thing that will always be in your garden?

APPLICATION

We are called to elevate love in our lives. We are called to love people like Jesus loves them? Think of the people you encounter every day. Do you love them like Jesus loves them? Are there people you find it difficult to love? Ask God to bring them to mind and then pray for God to change **you** so you can love even those who are difficult to love. Share with your group next week.

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 be found in all three locations.

Called Up Men's Retreat, 18-20 April, Eagle Sky of the Ozarks, 1 Eagle Sky Drive, Piedmont, MO 63957. Go to the following link to register. <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+bv7brch>

Baptisms, 21 April at 9:00 and 11:00 am, Oak Park High School, 825 NE 79th Terrace, Kansas City, MO. Register here:

<https://nwckc.com/baptism?sapurl=Lytxdm56L2xiL2V2LytiZGJtNTI2P2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZSZyZWNIbnRSb3V0ZT1hcHAud2ViLWFwcC5saWJyYXJ5LmNhbGVuZGFyJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlU2x1Zz0lMkJOY2ZoZmN4>

Selah Women's Retreat, 3-4 May, Heartland Retreat Center, Parkville, MO. Follow the link to register: <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+2rvhqw9>

Youth Summer Camp, Grades 6-12, 17-22 June. To sign up or for more information go to: <https://subsplash.com/newwinechurch/lb/ev/+sywckrv>

Kids Camp, 10-12 July from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Power Play. More information coming soon.

FINAL THOUGHT

If love never fails, then love always succeeds!