SERMON STUDY

REFLECT

- 1. What book or chapter of the Bible are you drawn back to over and over again? What are your normal habits for loving God's word?
- 2. What areas of your life did this week's sermon confront?

ENCOUNTER

The apostle Paul once summarized his ministry like this: "Now the goal of our instruction is love that comes from a pure heart" (1 Timothy 1:5). When asked what was the greatest commandment, Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is, Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:30). God wants our hearts. He doesn't want robotic obedience, but love. True, biblical love is an aim of the Christian life.

We want to be a church that loves God's word. No passage speaks of love for the word more than Psalm 119, a massive but emotional love poem about God's word. Read Psalm 119:9-16 together in order to grow in your love of the word.

- 3. What words express how the psalmist feels about the word?
- 4. What effect does the word have upon him?
- 5. How does he use the word?
- 6. Looking back, did our summer series from Psalm 119 reshape your love for the word?

TRANSFORM

- 7. What prevents us from loving the word?
- 8. How does loving the word together affect your love of the word alone?
- 9. When it comes to Bible reading, too often we make great plans and fail. Loving the word often starts with little plans. How can our group stir up one another to love the word?

PRAYER REQUESTS

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

~How Firm a Foundation ~