

Community Group Discussion Guide

Step 01: Recap what our current series is all about.

Note: Remind the group what series we're currently on (since not everyone will have been at church recently) and read through the series description provided below to refresh everyone on what it's all about.

Series Title: Love Does

Description: There are times when someone's behavior only makes sense once we understand their goal. Philippians chapter two reminds us of what Jesus did— He humbled himself from His exalted place in heaven to become one of us and give His life for us. But *why?* Because He loves us and wants us to know Him. And love is not passive. He couldn't do nothing. He couldn't stay in heaven. Love is active—*love does*.

Step 02: Recap of previous week's message.

Note: Read through the message outline with everyone briefly. You can stop and make comments as you see fit or read straight through it. Make sure you take time to read through the main text.

Message Title: Love Is...

Main Text: 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

Supporting Texts: Proverbs 10:19, Mark 10:45, Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 46:1, Isaiah 25:4

Message Outline:

Point 1: Love is essential

—In verses 1-3, Paul is reminding the church in Corinth that while spiritual gifts, and knowledge, and faith are important, only love is essential. In other words: Anything — Love = Nothing

—A life that lacks love isn't just neutral, it's noisy.

Point 2: Love is practiced.

—Love is both patient (passive) and kind (active).

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- Love has no time for unnecessary rivalries, boastful people, or prideful people.
- Love is unoffendable.
- Love is a covering.

Step 03: Lead group discussion.

Note: Do your best to keep the discussion going. Make sure you have read through the questions beforehand and are primed with thoughts of your own. Make everyone get specific with *how* they will apply this message in their own lives and in community—*no vague ideas allowed!*

Specific to this week's message:

1. What aspects of genuine love that we find in 1 Corinthians 13 are the most challenging for you?
2. What practical application from the sermon will you implement this week?
 - i. Adopt a Journalist Mindset
 - ii. Be a 'There You Are' person
 - iii. Ask yourself "What kind of covering does my love offer the people in my life?"

General questions:

1. How did this message encourage you? How did it convict you?
2. What is your plan for applying this message to your personal/daily life?
3. What might it look like for us to live this out in community?
4. Was there anything about this message that stood out to you?