

LET'S GO

LOVE · LISTEN · LEAD

LESSON 1 - LOVE

INTRODUCTION (video)

THREE PICTURES OF CHRIST'S LOVE

1.) SOLDIER (video)

Colossians 2:15 Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

1 Corinthians 15:57 Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

a.) What makes this metaphor personally motivating and compelling for you?

b.) Imagine coming back victorious from a battle and waking up every morning knowing that the only reason you are alive is that someone else sacrificed their life to save yours.

- How would this impact the way you live your life, even on an every-day basis?
- How would this impact your priorities and decision-making?

2.) EXILE (video)

1 Peter 2:9-12 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

a.) What in this metaphor pulls at your heart and mind and moves you to action?

b.) In what way does being a Christian bring you into a community with other people? How has this been a blessing in your life?

c.) We are now the people of God, but we are still living as “foreigners and exiles.” What does this mean?

3.) TRIAL (video)

Romans 3:23-24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

a.) How does this metaphor open a window into Christ’s love and faith’s response?

b.) Imagine going back to life after your court date – not only without handcuffs on your wrists and shackles on your feet, but with a new and completely clean legal record.

- How would this impact the decisions you made in the future?
- Would this make you more or less likely to return to your life of crime?

REFLECTION/PURPOSE/ACTION (video)

CULTURAL CHANGES

- *Have we seen this change in our community?*
- *How does this change effect our mission to spread the gospel?*

1.) DISTRUST OF INSTITUTIONS (*What gives the church the right to boss me around?*)

2.) INCREASED MOBILITY / TRANSIENCY (*Fewer generational churches.*)

3.) INCREASED ACCESS TO ANSWERS / EXPERTS (*Pastor no longer go to resource, internet, alternatives*)

4.) CONSUMER MENTALITY (*“I want the church to do what I want, or I’m going elsewhere.”*)

5.) MORAL RELATIVISM (*There are no absolute right and wrongs.*)

CULTURAL CHANGES (video)

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM OUR LORD

Matthew 28:19-20 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

1.) What is the specific comfort of having Jesus....

...at your back? *(all authority in heaven and earth has been given to him)*

...at your side? *(he is always with us)*

...go in front of you? *(he is doing the mission work through his means of grace)*

OUR IMMEDIATE MISSION FIELD (video)

CLOSING QUESTION

1.) How does it make you feel, that given our current culture, YOU will need to be personally involved in reaching lost souls?