

**RELATIONSHIPS: LIVE LOVE**  
**LIFEGROUP STUDY**  
**Jan. 31, 2021**  
**PARTICIPANT NOTES**

Welcome back to our LifeGroup series, Relationships! Today, as we wrap up our series, our topic is called, "Live Love." The night before he went to the cross, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment – "Love one another as I have loved you." Followers of Jesus are to be known for and characterized by our love for one another. What does it look like to love one another just as Jesus loves us? How can we grow our love for others in this time of the pandemic? These are the questions we'll dive into as we explore the topic, "Live Love".

**ICEBREAKER: I Love It!**

"Love" is a word we often use to describe our affection or appreciation of something. "I love ice cream!" "Ya gotta love the Leafs!" "I love my home." Thinking of love in this way, share with the group – **what did you love about where you lived when you were 10? What do you love about where you live now?**

**STUDY**

Think back to Ken's teaching about loving others in the same way Jesus loves us. On Sunday, Ken defined love as this - *Love is the decision, often accompanied by feelings of affection, that seeks to serve the good of the other person and longs for blessing in their life.*

- **What do you think of this definition? Would you add or take anything away from it?**
- **What key elements in this definition are important for us to understand and why?**
- **Why is it important to know what love is?**

Loving Others As Jesus Love Us

READ: John 13:34

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." NLT

- Jesus says, “Just as I have loved you ...” As a group, see if you can **come up with a list of 5 examples of how God has loved us**. For example – God has loved us by giving us His Son (John 3:16). For each act of love, **cite the example, a Scripture and an application**.

<u>“Just As” I Have Loved You</u>		
Example	Scripture	Application
Ex. God Gives.	John 3:16	Give to one another.
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

READ: Matthew 22:37-39

- **What are the two commands in the Great Commandments?**
- **How does this New Commandment take the Great Commandments and pull them together into one? Why can Jesus do this?**
- At Creekside, our mission is to FOLLOW JESUS, LOVE GOD and LOVE PEOPLE. Jesus said, “The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” **Why do you think Jesus chose the word “love” as our ultimate goal, rather than “follow” or “obey”?**
- In giving his new command, Jesus changes our emphasis from loving others as we love ourselves, to loving others as Jesus has loved us. **What is the difference between “Love your neighbour *as yourself*” and “Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.” (John 13:35)?**

## Loving Others

READ: John 13:35

“Your love for one another will prove the world that you are my disciples.” NLT

- As followers of Jesus, we have a new mission – to show the world God’s love. **What are 3 or 4 practical ways we can show God’s love during the pandemic?**

LEADER NOTE:

If you have time, have your group go to 1 Corinthians 13. Walk through it and then identify an action of love from that passage that each member of the group might identify as one they need to work on. IDEA – make a list, put up on the Chat and pray for each other for that area to blossom in your lives.

Here are two key ways we can show God’s love during the pandemic.

1. **Involve and Invite:** In the pandemic, many are longing for connection and friendship. Ask God and look for ways you can be involved with neighbours, co-workers, people who are far from God. As God opens a door, invite them to get to know Jesus.
  2. **Serve:** In the pandemic, what are some practical ways you can serve the needs of others? Serving can be calling on the phone just to check in, bringing someone a hot meal, helping someone move. As we serve, we model God’s love for others.
- What is a key takeaway for you from this study?

## **PRAYER:**

Creekside helps to support several individuals and families who are involved in Global Missions. This week let’s focus our prayers on our Global Mission partners.

- Pray for our Global Missionaries, the N family and the C family as both face challenges of needing to travel for visa purposes. Pray for safe travel, protection from Covid, and success in getting needed paperwork.
- GO Global! Join us MONDAY EVENING Feb 8 at 7:00 pm for a chat with Kent Annan of Wheaton College on "Reaching out without burning out in the new reality". Meet some of our 'glocal' ministry partners as well. Register at <https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/missions/>