

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

God: Discover His Character

Oct 2018

Lesson 10 – God Is Love

INTRODUCTION

Read article (on back). When have you been motivated by love?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: Love is the supreme expression of God's personhood and flows out of his inherent goodness. It affects all his other attributes. The Bible does not say, "God is holiness" or "God is power," but "God is love." 1 Jn 4:8; 16 Dr. Bill Bright says God's love is the only reason we exist. It is the why of creation, whereas His power is the how. Love demands an object; therefore, we are created as an object of God's love.

Read 1 John 4:7-21

1. What is love? Vv 10,11
2. What is the source of human love?
3. What is the relationship between loving and knowing God?
4. Why should Christians love one another? Why is it easier to love God than other Christians?
5. Would you say that the love described here is more of an action or a feeling? Can love exist without feeling? Explain.

Read Matthew 22:34-40

6. What did the man ask?
7. What kind of love did Jesus describe? **Deut 6:5**
8. What important footnote did Jesus give to His answer? **Lev 19:18**
9. What does it mean to "love our neighbor as ourselves"?
10. If love was the foundation of Old Testament law, why do we have such a hard time equating God's love with law?
11. How do we measure the magnitude of our love for God? **Matt 25:34-40; John 14:15**

APPLICATION

- God has given you a specific sphere of influence for a reason. Who do you know that needs to know how much God loves them?
- What are some practical ways that you can love God with all your heart, soul and mind?

"...The Lord does not give me rules, but He makes His standard very clear. If my relationship to Him is that of love, I will do what He says without hesitation. If I hesitate, it is because I love someone I have placed in competition with Him, namely, myself...."

– Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*, November 2.

Jesus says that if we truly love God and our neighbor, we will naturally keep the commandments. This is looking at God's law positively. Rather than worrying about all we should *not* do, we should concentrate on all we *can* do to show our love for God and others.

Life Application Notes