

“Once again you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean!” - Micah 7:19

SESSION 4:
LOVE COMPLETELY

Text: John 13:1

Plain Truth:

If you _____ onto love you _____ it;
the only way to _____ it is to give it
_____.

1) Love risks _____.

2) Love risks _____.

3) Love risks _____.

4) Love risks total _____.

One Year Bible Readings

May 19: 1 Samuel 24:1-25:44, John 10:22-42, Psalm 116:1-19, Proverbs 15:20-21
May 20: 1 Samuel 26:1-28:25, John 11:1-54, Psalm 117:1-2, Proverbs 15:22-23
May 21: 1 Samuel 29:1-31:13, John 11:55-12:19, Psalm 118:1-18, Proverbs 15:24-26
May 22: 2 Samuel 1:1-2:11, John 12:20-50, Psalm 118:19-29, Proverbs 15:27-28
May 23: 2 Samuel 2:12-3:39, John 13:1-30, Psalm 119:1-16, Proverbs 15:29-30
May 24: 2 Samuel 4:1-6:23, John 13:31-14:14, Psalm 119:17-32, Proverbs 15:31-32
May 25: 2 Samuel 7:1-8:18, John 14:15-31, Psalm 119:33-48, Proverbs 15:33

Life Group Lesson

40 Days to Live • Week of May 19

SESSION 4: LOVE COMPLETELY

“At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, ‘Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?’ Jesus replied, ‘Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven. The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn’t pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market. The poor wretch threw himself at the king’s feet and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ Touched by his plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt. “The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, ‘Pay up. Now!’ The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ But he wouldn’t do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king. The king summoned the man and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn’t you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?’” Matthew 18:21-33

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Forgiveness is a big deal with Jesus. In fact, this parable reveals that the Master is ready to pardon even the greatest of debts or sins, yet most of us are not willing to pardon the minor sins of those against us. God has to hold us accountable for sin infects our lives. Sin causes great distance between us and God as well as those we love. Sin will destroy us if it is not dealt with. This is why Jesus sees forgiveness as a big deal for to hold a grudge, to drown in bitterness is its own prison and it sins against a Holy God who has made pardon available for us. To Love fully, to love completely is to love to the depths of forgiveness. You and I can’t go there on our own. We have to have the work of the Holy Spirit to do so. God can and does give this gift through the Holy Spirit if we surrender—trust Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 | Who do you need to forgive right now? What have they done to you?
- 2 | Who do you need to ask for forgiveness from? How have you wronged them?
- 3 | In what ways have you experienced the burden of bitterness lifted when you’ve forgiven?
- 4 | What ways can we continue to encourage one another in showing love, grace and forgiveness?

ACTION STEPS

- 1 | Who do you love the most? Who are you still holding an “unsettled debt with? Who do you need to forgive? Call them.
- 2 | Guilt means “I owe you”. “Anger means you owe me”. Who have you offended? Who do you need to confess to, and ask for forgiveness? Call them today, tomorrow’s letters don’t get written.
- 3 | Pray as a group for each person, put them in the “Love Seat” where we pray for persons struggling with anything, and pray that God might lead them to reconciling love with Himself and with others in their lives. Yes, put everyone in the “Love Seat” as you close. Why? Not one of us has gone our entire lives without offending someone. Not one of us does not have one hurt that might still yet to be healed. It may be so deep we don’t want to bring it to mind, but the enemy still uses it against us. Be free of it today. Confess it, release it, and let the Master truly set each of us free.