



Small-Group Study Guide

Name: _____

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The “Why” Behind, What Matters Most

During the summer of 2019 Ron Myer, our apostolic overseer from DOVE International, shared a message in our church with a two-fold emphasis. First, he heard the Lord saying, “It’s time for Crossroads to lose weight.” As we all chuckled, he explained the biblical application. Hebrews 12:1 reads, “*Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us*” (NKJV). He highlighted that not everything that hinders us is sin; sometimes good things hinder us and it is time to lose them.

The second part of his message was a challenge which evolved into this series, WHAT MATTERS MOST. Ron said, “Would this community be different if every Christian would *manifest Jesus* in their daily life?” Or course, we knew the answer to that one.

While this two-fold message may not be revelatory in itself, the third factor was Ron’s tearfulness sometimes in the sermon that lingered throughout the day. I felt like the Lord was highlighting to us the tenderness of his heart for the Body of Christ to assess what things were hindering us and to be purposeful in manifesting Jesus to our community.

This quest led me to a study called *Love Does* by Bob Goff. While helpful, that curriculum didn’t quite hit the mark for us. Then I discovered 40

Days of Community written by Rick Warren which hit closer to the bullseye of showing us practically how to manifest Jesus in our community.

As a result, WHAT MATTERS MOST was born. Adapted from Rick Warren's *40 Days of Community* and using 1 Corinthians 13 as our road map, this five-week series is intended to guide us in small groups to not only discover what love is but to show what love does! I recently came across an older secular song from a group named Foreigner entitled, "I want to know what love is?" and the echo was "I want you to show me!" As I listened to that song again, I heard the Lord say, "this is what the world is calling out to the church at this time. I want to know what love is...I want **you** to show me!"

This series will examine what God's love is...and show you what his love does through us. The goal is to infect your small group, church, and community with the love of Jesus. Welcome to the transformation!

Pastor Bobby Alger
Lead Pastor
Crossroads Community Church
Winchester VA

How to Facilitate this Series in a Small Group

Each session has seven sections:

The Introduction, Opening Activity, Bible Focus, Learn Together (Video Teaching), Discuss Together, Pray Together, and Practice Together. Each section is explained in such a way that it's easy to plug and play!

A suggested time schedule is as follows:

- Introductions of new and Opening Activity
(Allow more time first night) 15 minutes
- Bible Focus and Learn Together Included in
Video Teaching 20 minutes
- Discussion Time from selected questions
(listed in lesson) 30 minutes
- Prayer Time 15 minutes
- Practice Together (Challenge from video and
action plan) 10 minutes

Total 90 minutes

In HOSTING this group, your primary emphasis should be to:

1. Watch the video beforehand, take notes, and read over all parts of the lesson (30 minutes).
2. Read over the discussion questions and pick one that you think best fits your group.

(If you don't know, start with # 1 and work your way down)

Leader Tip: You do NOT NEED TO COVER ALL QUESTIONS. Find out which one gets the most discussion from everyone and stay there. (Encourage them to answer the other questions on their own that week)

3. Pray for the people in your group by name every day that they will begin to understand, experience, and show the love of God to others.
4. There are three main goals for the group to accomplish: a) Express greater love to each other in the group, b) show love to the church body, c) demonstrate love to your community through a project you agree to do.
5. Don't hesitate to ask or involve others to help you with snacks, facilitate discussion, close in prayer, or other practical needs of the group meeting.

Other practical tips:

1. On the first night, review the Group Guidelines found on pages 37-38.
2. Begin your meeting promptly and end promptly.
3. If childcare is needed for group members, think of creative ways to meet the need.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Session 1: Defining Love

Introduction- Have everyone introduce themselves by answering the following:

1. The city, state, (or country) I was born in.
2. How many siblings I have.
3. My favorite job in life so far.

Opening Activity: Rank the following items in terms of importance **if you were to lose any of the following:** (1 most valuable – 4 least valuable).

- | | <u>Rank</u> |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Your wallet/purse (ie. credit cards; ID...) | ___ |
| 2. Your electronic device.
(i.e. phone or tablet) | ___ |
| 3. Your job or position | ___ |
| 4. A friend or loved one | ___ |

Have a show of hands

- Who ranked their wallet # 1?
- Who ranked their device # 1?
- Who ranked job # 1?
- Who ranked a friend or loved one #1?

Notice the variations in how people value things differently. We all have our reasons for what matters most to us.

Bible Focus: (Show Video)

Galatians 5:6 - *The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.*

1 Corinthians 13:13 - *And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

Learn Together:

What matters most to God is Love!

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 reads:

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. NIV

In these three verses there are five radical statements about love:

God says, If I am not motivated by love:

1. Nothing I _____ will matter.

If I could speak in any language in heaven or on earth but didn't love others, I would only be making meaningless noise like a loud gong or a clanging cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 NLT

2. Nothing I _____ will matter.

I may have the gift of prophecy. I may understand all the secret things of God and have all knowledge... But if I do not have love, then I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:2 NCV

3. Nothing I _____ will matter.

Even if I had the gift of faith so that I could speak to a mountain and make it move, I would still be worth nothing at all without love.

1 Corinthians 13:2b LB

4. Nothing I _____ will matter.

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body...And didn't love others, I would be of no value whatsoever.

1 Corinthians 13:3 NLT

5. Nothing I _____ will matter.

So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

1 Corinthians 13:3b MSG

If I were to start a sentence with “**Love is...**,” how would you finish it? If you stop and think about your answer, it probably involves something someone DOES for you! When you define what “love is”...your definition includes what someone does! What they do shows they love you!

What then is the source of Love?

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:7-12 NIV

Did you notice when describing what love is, God tells what He did? So you can't separate "**love is**" from "**love does**"! If you do, then you don't have God's complete expression of love.

Since God is love, then He created us to love Him and each other!

1. Love is a _____.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35 NIV

2. Love is a _____.

Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does.

1 Corinthians 14:1 MSG

3. Love is our _____.

Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions.

1 John 3:18 LB

4. Love is a _____.

God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us.

1 John 4:16b CEV

5. Love becomes a _____.

God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

Hebrews 13:5-6 NIV

Discuss Together: (If you have eight or more, we suggest you break into two subgroups for greater participation.)

1. Of the five statements that said, "I am nothing without love" which one is a new thought to you or even difficult for you to accept and why?
2. In reading 1 John 4:7-12 can you make a distinction between what "Love is" versus what "Love does"? Why is it important that the two are joined together? Is it possible for someone to love and not be following God?
3. In the five descriptions of what "Love is," which one is the hardest for you to accept or

practice? Which one is the easiest for you to accept or practice?

Pray Together:

What has this lesson sparked within you that you need prayer for:

Practice Together: (Back to Video)

1 Corinthians 14:1 (MSG) says, *Go after a life of love as if your life depended on it—because it does.* Who is someone you can express love to this week?

Pick One:

A word of encouragement for them.

A small gift to bless them.

Some quality time to listen to them.

Serve them in some meaningful way.

Give someone a loving hug.

Think about someone to invite next week. Ask your host or small group to pray with you about it!

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Session 2: Belonging Together

*Have any newcomers introduce themselves by answering the three questions in session one.

Opening Activity: Have several people report back from their experiences of intentionally expressing love to someone this past week. Who did they pick? What was the other person's response? How did the experience impact you?

We were never designed to live life alone!

Bible Focus (Show Video)

We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others.

Romans 12:5 NLT

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 NIV

Learn Together:

How Love Keeps Us Belonging Together (1 Corinthians 13:7).

1. Love always _____.

He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:9 NIV

- Love takes matters _____ to solve them!

2. Love always _____.

We are confident about you in the Lord—that you are doing and will keep doing what we tell you to do. May the Lord lead your hearts to express God’s love and Christ’s endurance.

2 Thessalonians 3:4-5 CEB

- Love believes _____ each other AND
believes _____ each other!

3. Love always _____.

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

- Love _____

others who do things better than us!

4. Love always _____.

Friends come and friends go, but a true friend sticks by you like family.

Proverbs 18:24 MSG

- Love stays with others to the end of the

_____.

You are the body of Christ, and each of you is a unique and vital part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:27 PT

Discuss Together: (If you have eight or more, we suggest you break into two subgroups for greater participation.)

For this week's discussion, have separate subgroups for men and women.

1. Which of the four statements about love from 1 Corinthians 13:7 spoke to you most powerfully? Why did it get your attention?
2. What does it mean to trust others and persevere with them? Can you recall a time when the trust was broken with someone and then got repaired?
3. What does this statement mean to you: "I need my friends to have faith in me?" Can you recall

a time when someone else's belief in you pulled you through a rough time?

4. Invite one or two people to share how they came to trust Christ through the influence of a friend.

Pray Together:

What has this lesson sparked within you that you need prayer for:

Practice Together: (Back to Video)

In surveys of growing churches, one of the key factors is having an “atmosphere of love among the members.” Discuss what you can do as a group to challenge one another to enhance the “atmosphere of love” in your church when you gather. Make a list to do as a group, individuals, or couples and report back.

Here are some suggested ideas:

1. Spend 10 minutes praying for the service before coming.
2. Arrive 10 minutes early to get settled and speak to a few people around me.
3. Sit in a different place each Sunday to meet new people.

4. Volunteer once a month in a department as an individual, couple or group.
5. Ask the Pastoral Staff for any work projects your group can accomplish.
6. If special projects or outings are planned, volunteer to help set up or tear down as a group.

Make your list together:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Special note for next week:** We will begin brainstorming together about a community project our group can participate in that will bless the community. Be thinking and praying this week and come with suggestions next week. Remember “Love is***” is defined by “**Love does.**”

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Session 3: Reaching Out

*Have any newcomers introduce themselves by answering the three questions in session one.

Opening Activity: Invite anyone to share about how they practiced love this week. Ask if anyone stepped “outside of their comfort zone” to show love to someone. What was it like afterward?

Bible Focus: (show video)

Be wise in the way you act with people who are not believers, making the most of every opportunity.

Colossians 4:5 NCV

Those you help will be glad not only because of your generous gifts to themselves and to others, but they will praise God for this proof that your deeds are as good as your doctrine.

2 Corinthians 9:13 LB

Learn Together:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. Love never fails!

1 Corinthians 13:4, 8a

This verse gives us two things “love is” and three things “love is not”! Verse 8 reminds us that when God’s love is expressed, WE CAN NEVER FAIL! Amazing!

Love:

- Is _____
- Is _____

Assessment: Which one of the above is _____
for you and which one is _____?

Love:

- Does not _____
- Is not _____
- Is not _____

Assessment: These three speak to _____.
Do you find it easy or difficult to keep your
motives in love?

But he (Jesus) answered me, "My grace is always more than enough for you, and my power finds its full expression through your weakness." So I will celebrate my weaknesses, for when I'm weak I sense more deeply the mighty power of Christ living in me.

2 Corinthians 12:9 PT

- To show love to others includes BOTH actions we _____ and actions we _____.

- In reaching out to others, they often very quickly pick up on our _____.
- In reaching an outsider/unbeliever we should look for the _____ in their life!
 - Needs often surface in times of _____ or life _____.

Discuss Together: (If you have eight or more, we suggest you break into two subgroups for greater participation)

1. In the Learn Together section, there were two assessments regarding what “love does” and what “love does not” do. Answer the questions for yourself and share it in your group. (Circle the ones that are easy and place an X by the ones that require accountability).
2. If you think about the overall intent of what Jesus began when he came to earth, WE ARE THE ONES TO CONTINUE the ministry he started (Acts 1:1) In last week’s lesson we were reminded that WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST. God has chosen you and I to show His tangible love here on earth. What are your thoughts about this statement? Does it excite you, scare you, or overwhelm you? Why?

Pray Together:

What has this lesson sparked within you that you need prayer for:

Practice Together: (Back to Video)

Brainstorm together about something your group can do to “love on” the community in which you live. If you have a hard time coming up with some activity, here are some suggestions to spark ideas within your group.

- Volunteer at a local food bank.
- Go to a nursing home or hospice together and ask for those with no family to visit.
- Contact a community non-profit and ask if they need practical help or a project done.
- Clean up trash after a community festival or help tear down equipment.
- Ask to weed the community flower beds (seasonal).
- Take homemade goodies to a local fire hall or the night shift at the police station.
- Identify an inmate and take turns writing words of encouragement to them.
- Volunteer at an “at-risk” program for children and teens.
- If your church is planning an outreach, find out how you as a group can support it.

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

James 1:22 NLT

The **LOVE DOES PROJECT** we are doing is:

- Who is the coordinator:

- Why are we doing this:

- What resources are needed:

- When are we doing this:

- What are some things we can be praying about:

Before you leave, if someone is missing from your group assign someone to contact them and update them with what's happening and invite them to return next week.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Session 4: Growing Together

*Have any newcomers introduce themselves by answering the three questions in session one.

Opening Activity: Invite anyone to share about how they practiced love this week? Who is someone in your life that has shown Christian love to you? What was meaningful about it?

Bible Focus: (show video)

Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

It (love) does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.

1 Corinthians 13 5-6; 9-11 NIV

Learn Together:

1. Growing together requires _____.

Love is not... *rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable...*

1 Corinthians 13:5 NLT

Be humble and gentle in every way. Be patient with each other and lovingly accept each other.

Ephesians 4:2 GW

2. Growing together requires _____.

Love keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:5b NIV

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:13 NIV

For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Matthew 7:2 NIV

3. Growing together requires _____.

Love...rejoices with the truth.

1 Corinthians 13:6b NIV

Speak the truth in a spirit of love.

Ephesians 4:15 TEV

4. Growing together requires seeking the

_____.

When I was a child, I spoke about childish matters, for I saw things like a child and reasoned like a child. But the day came when I matured, and I set aside my childish ways.

1 Corinthians 13:11 PT

But we have the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:16b NIV

Discuss Together: (If you have eight or more, we suggest you break into two subgroups for greater participation.)

1. Which one of these four challenges you the most: patience, forgiveness, truthfulness, or seeking the mind of Christ? Which of the four do you feel you have victory in and how did you achieve it?
2. When does impatience or avoidance (opposite of truthfulness) show up in your life? What do you feel are the “triggers” ?
3. How would you know if you have forgiven someone? How would you know if you haven’t? What are the consequences of not forgiving?
4. Putting away “childish things” can be hard and even painful if past events are not dealt with. Does knowing we have access to the mind of Christ in every matter give you hope? Why?

Pray Together: What has this lesson sparked within you that you need prayer for:

Special Note: The subject matter of this lesson can be very sensitive. Facilitate the prayer time to uphold the dignity of anyone facing difficult matters. (Smaller groups, pairs, different rooms, or more mature Christians with newer ones)

Practice Together: (Back to Video)

Having patience, forgiving people, being truthful, and seeking the mind of Christ are very important in showing love to others. Not practicing these will impact the ministry we do in a negative way.

Is there anyone in the church, your family, or friends you need to forgive? Forgiveness begins between you and God (Colossians 3:13). There are three elements to forgiveness: The person(s) involved; the incident(s) that happened; how it made you feel as a result. Forgive the person involved in the incident, and ask God to change how you feel about them. The word “forgive” in Greek literally means to “let it go.” After you have forgiven them, if you believe it is beneficial to tell the person you have forgiven them then do it. If you are unsure whether or not that would be helpful, get counsel.

Before you leave, get an update on your selected LOVE DOES PROJECT. Check the details list from lesson three.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Session 5: Serving Together

*Have any newcomers introduce themselves by answering the three questions in session one.

Opening Activity: So far in the journey of What Matters Most, what has been the most **rewarding thing** you have done to show love and what has been the most **challenging thing** you have done to show love? Is there any correlation between the two?

Bible Focus: (show video)

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Love empowers us to fulfill the law of Christ as we carry each other's troubles.

Galatians 6:2 PT

Learn Together:

Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.

1 Corinthians 13:12 NLT

Until then, there are three things that remain: faith, hope, and love—yet love surpasses them all. So above all else, let love be the beautiful prize for which you run.

1 Corinthians 13:13 PT

1. Discovering where to serve in the church is

a _____.

- Generally people are _____ about something.
- Ask if there is a _____ in that area.
- Passion combined with need produces a _____ for you!

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—

Romans 1:1 NIV

2. Jesus taught that serving others had the _____ reward.

You are to lead by a different model. If you want to be the greatest one, then live as one called to serve others. The path to promotion and prominence comes by having the heart of a bond-slave who serves everyone. For even the Son of Man did not come expecting to be served by everyone, but to serve everyone, and to give his life as the ransom price in exchange for the salvation of many."

Mark 10:43-45 PT

3. People who serve on a regular basis have the following characteristics:

- They become _____.

- They work as a _____.

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:16 NIV

- They have a _____ goal.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10:24 NIV

- They do any task with equal _____.

For God is not unfair. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other Christians, as you still do. Our great desire is that you will keep right on loving others as long as life lasts...

Hebrews 6:10-11 NLT

Discuss Together: (If you have eight or more, we suggest you break into two subgroups for greater participation.)

1. Are you currently serving in a ministry at church? If so, tell the group what you're doing.
2. What brings you the most joy in serving others?
3. The "heart test" of serving is when you are treated like a servant. Have you ever felt imposed upon, obligated, or taken for granted in serving? How did you work it through?
4. People often have reservations about serving. Some of the common hindrances are:
 - time constraints
 - already overcommitted
 - nothing in my passion
 - lack of confidence
 - lack of information
 - lack of training
 - fear of it becoming a "life sentence"

Which one of these roadblocks presents the biggest obstacle for you? What can you do to avoid or overcome your biggest barrier?

Pray Together:

What has this lesson sparked within you that you need prayer for:

Practice Together: (Back to Video)

The lesson focused on serving individually, but what can you do together as a group to serve the church?

- Provide some meals for a family in transition (moving, new baby, hospitalization).
- Offer to help with practical needs based on skills within your group (painting, projects).
- Plan a mission trip as a group (in country or out of country).
- Serve a ministry in smaller teams (nursery, greeting, children, teens, seniors).
- Offer specialized services (money management, marriage encouragement).
- Other: _____
- Other: _____

Special Note: Speak with the pastor or church staff to see what options are available to serve in that you might not be aware of.

Before you leave have you settled your LOVE DOES community project? If not completed, set the date, time and expectation of each person in the group.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Bonus Meeting!

After you complete your LOVE DOES community project set a time when you can gather together once again and **celebrate** the completion of WHAT MATTERS MOST.

During your celebration discuss the following:

1. What was one thing that was the most meaningful to you about the five weeks together?
2. What area did you grow the most in practicing love?

There are three things that remain: faith, hope, and love—yet love surpasses them all. So above all else, let love be the beautiful prize for which you run.

1 Corinthians 13:13 PT

Finally – Should we continue to meet together for another season?

- Get assistance from the Pastoral Staff if you need curriculum ideas.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Additional Resources

GROUP GUIDELINES

It's a good idea for every group to put words to their shared values, expectations, and commitments. Such guidelines will help you avoid unspoken agendas and unmet expectations. We recommend you discuss your guidelines during session one in order to lay the foundation for a healthy group experience. Feel free to modify anything that does not work for your group.

We Agree to the Following Values:

Clear Purpose

We agree to grow healthy together as we improve our spiritual lives.

Group Attendance

We agree, that as a courtesy to the group, to make attendance a priority and if running late or unable to attend to call or give notice.

Safe Environment

We agree to create a safe place where people can be heard and feel loved (no quick answers, simple fixes, or snap judgments).

Be Confidential

We agree to keep anything that is shared confidential within the group. (If a problem arises, contact your host or cohost).

Spiritual Health

We agree to allow group members to speak into our life and to encourage each other to live a healthy, balanced spiritual life, one that is pleasing to God. (This is called "one anothering").

Welcome Newcomers

We agree to invite friends who might benefit from this study and warmly welcome newcomers, even after the series has started.

Building Relationships

We agree to get to know the other members of the group and pray for them by name on a regular basis.

Other

We have also discussed and agree on the following items:

Child Care

Start/End Time

Answer Key

Session 1: Defining Love

Nothing I **SAY** will matter.

Nothing I **KNOW** will matter.

Nothing I **BELIEVE** will matter.

Nothing I **GIVE** will matter.

Nothing I **ACCOMPLISH** will matter.

Love is a **COMMAND**.

Love is a **CHOICE**.

Love is our **CONDUCT**.

Love is a **COMMITMENT**.

Love becomes a **COVENANT**.

Session 2: Belonging Together

Love always **PROTECTS**.

Love takes matters **UP** to solve them.

Love always **TRUSTS**.

Love believes **IN** each other and believes **FOR** each other.

Love always **HOPES**.

Love **COMPLIMENTS** others who do things better than us!

Love always **PERSEVERES**.

Love stays with others to the end of the **PROCESS**.

Session 3: Reaching Out

Is PATIENT

Is KIND

Assessment: Which one of the above is EASIER for you and which one is HARDER?

Does not ENVY

Is not BOASTFUL

Is not PROUD

Assessment: These three speak to MOTIVE.
Do you find it easy or difficult to keep your motives in love?

To show love to others includes both actions we TAKE and actions we WITHHOLD.

In reaching out to others, they are often very quick to pick up our MOTIVES.

In reaching an outsider/unbeliever we should look for the NEED in their life!

Needs often surface in times of CRISIS or life CHANGE.

Session 4: Growing Together

Growing together requires PATIENCE.

Growing together requires FORGIVENESS.

Growing together requires TRUTHFULNESS.

Growing Together requires seeking the MIND OF CHRIST.

Session 5: Serving Together

Discovering where to serve in the church is a **PROCESS**.

Generally, people are **PASSIONATE** about something.

Ask if there is a **NEED** in that area.

Passion combined with need produces a **CALLING** for you.

Jesus taught that serving others had the **GREATEST** reward.

They become **AVAILABLE**.

They work as a **TEAM**.

They have a **HIGHER** goal.

They do any task with equal **DEDICATION**.



1147 Berryville Ave Winchester VA 22601

Email: ccc.admin@crossroadswinchester.com

Website: www.crossroadswinchester.com