

WE LOVE PEOPLE

MATTHEW 22:34-40

TODD DUGARD // JANUARY 30, 2022



We love people as we'd like them to love us (Matthew 22:39; Luke 6:31; Romans 13:8-10) even when it's hard to love them (Luke 6:27; Ephesians 4:2), not only with words but practically (1 John 3:18), in ways that cost us something (John 15:10-13; Philippians 2:3), because Jesus said so (John 13:34).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you have in common with people who are difficult to love? *(If you think you're easy to love, what helps you reach that conclusion?)*
2. If you were ill and unable to cook, clean, or manage yourself for a while, describe the kind of loving care you would desire to receive?
3. What do you think it means to wrong your neighbour? (Romans 13:10)
4. How do you know if you're holding back love from a person in your life because the cost seems too high? What does Jesus say is the highest cost to pay to show love to another person? (John 15:13; 1 John 3:16)

5. Parenting is a form of costly love. Caring for the poor is another. What are practical demonstrations of costly love for children and youth, the poor and homeless, or the sick and wounded who are part of our community? (James 2:15-16, 1 John 3:18)

6. Two great obstacles we face when it comes to loving other people are 1) feeling deeply offended by them and/or 2) feeling superior to them. What qualifies Jesus to command us to love one another even when these obstacles exist? (John 13:34-35, Luke 6:27)