



INTRODUCTION

Part 3 - Loving Starts at Home

What really matters? What is important? What does it mean to be great? The series The Greatest explores what really matter to Jesus – love – and it will answer questions such as: Why does love matter so much? What does it mean to love? How can we grow in our capacity to love? Together, let's learn what it really means to love well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How was love expressed in your household growing up? Did you feel loved? Why or why not?
2. Which is easier: to love family members or to love people outside of the family? Explain your answer.
3. Why do you think we sometimes struggle to love members of our own family? Why do you think it is important to love well in the home?
4. Read Ephesians 5:28. What do you think Paul meant when he said that a husband who loves his wife loves himself? How does our love for others impact the quality of our lives?
5. Read Ephesians 6:2-4. Why is it so important that parents and children love each other well? What are some ways children can demonstrate love for their parents? How can parents demonstrate love for their children?
6. Read 1 John 4:20-21. How would you interpret these verses? What do you think we should do if we have trouble loving someone?
7. Read 1 Timothy 5:8 and James 2:15-16. Do you think we should always provide for the physical needs of family members? Explain your answer.
8. What are some practical ways we can demonstrate love toward our family members?

APPLICATION

The work of love begins at home. Because of Christ's love for us, we have an obligation to treat others well, to do good to all, and to love others, especially those close to us, like our family.

Sometimes the hardest people to love are those within our own household, but life is much better and encouraging when we love our husband/wife, parents, children and siblings well. What does this look like?

- Spend time with them
- Be concerned about their needs
- Ask them how to love them better
- Serve them
- Forgive them
- Defend and speak well of them
- Be respectful to them
- Take 1 Corinthians 13 to heart

KEY VERSES

Proverbs 3:29	Malachi 4:6
Proverbs 28:24	Proverbs 17:17
Galatians 6:10	1 John 4:20-21
Ephesians 5:21-33	1 Timothy 5:8
Ephesians 6:2-4	James 2:15-16
Exodus 20:12	1 Corinthians 13
Proverbs 20:20	