

What is Love?

Understanding Love in the Bible:

How does 1 John 4:7-16 define love? How does this definition compare to the common cultural definitions of love?

Love as the Most Important Thing:

Reflecting on the verses mentioned by Paul (Galatians 5:22, 1 Corinthians 16:14, etc.), why do you think love is emphasized as the most important virtue?

Different Perspectives on Love:

What are the different definitions of love at play in our culture. Keith mentioned four (feeling, chemical process, force, unquestioned support). How have these influenced your understanding of what love is?

Love's Origin:

First John 4 says that love originates from God. How does this belief shape our culture's perception of love and its purpose?

Rugged Commitment:

What does it mean for love to be a "rugged commitment"? Can you think of examples where you've seen or experienced this kind of love?

How do we navigate the tension between loving others and disagreeing with them on significant issues? What does it look like to "be in relationship" despite differences?

Presence and Advocacy:

How does the concept of love being a commitment to "be with" and "be for" others challenge or affirm your current relationships? What might this look like when it comes to loving our neighbour or loving our enemy?

God's Love for Us:

Reflect on the statement, "God doesn't just love you; He likes you." How does this perspective affect your self-image and your relationship with God?

Receiving God's Love:

What practical steps can you take to receive and internalize the love of God in your life, especially in areas where you struggle to love yourself?

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