



## LOVE

**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)**

- *Internal:* How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- *External:* Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

## TRUTH

**Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)**

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?

[Dialogue]

2. Let's read our primary text. Who, from memory, can now recite Warren's core values?

Worship through the word, authentic community, reliable strength, radical stewardship, effective engagement, neighbors and the nations

3. Why do you think these core values are beneficial for us to review?

[Example - It is a simple acronym, but it reminds us of the fundamentals of our faith. It reminds us of what 1st the generation Christians practiced how God expects us to live.]

4. Why do you think it is important for us to know the history of our local church?

[Example - It reminds us of those who have gone before us. It reminds us of the sacrifices that have been made for us to be able to gather. It reminds us of God's faithfulness. It reminds us of our responsibility to "carry the torch" and pass it on to the next generation as so many did for us.]

5. In verse 42 these believers were described as devoted. What were they devoted to? Who were they devoted to? [Reflective - *What would others say you are devoted to?*]

They were devoted to the word, to one another, to breaking bread, and to prayer. They were devoted to the Lord and to each other.

6. What does this passage teach us about community?

People (especially Christians) were made for community. Christian brothers and sisters are a gift from God, when we start viewing them as a burden, we may have lost proper perspective. "It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brothers and sisters." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

7. These early believers just had an amazing encounter with the Holy Spirit and thousand were added to their number. They had every excuse to simply move forward in power, but what did they do?

They immediately returned to the fundamentals. This was not simply an experiential faith, but Holy Spirit power coupled with devotion to the prescribed things of the Lord; word, prayer, communion, love.

8. How does this text cause us to change? What does it make you consider in your own life?

[Dialogue]

9. How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member?

[Dialogue]

## GREAT COMMISSION

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)**

- Is there anyone that needs an invite to our church or this group?
- Is there anyone you know who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
- Does anyone here need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

## CONFESSTION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

**But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)**

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply his word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

## HOMEWORK:

- Memorize our weekly "Fighter Verse" - Psalm 96:4-5

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Sources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)