

Love Where You Live week 1

These questions are for your growth and to prepare for the conversation in your Growth Group. We encourage you to read through them, spend some time thinking about your responses and write down anything that could aid in your Group. We also encourage you dig deeper, research, look for supporting Scriptures, etc. We are excited for your growth relationally and spiritual. **We recommend the Bible versions of - ESV, NTL, NIV and The Message.

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Series Overview: Jesus believed changing the world began with loving your neighbor. What would happen if a group of people took that seriously? And not metaphorically, but practically? What if you & I decided to invest the best of who we are into the people, places & problems we're living in the midst of right now? What would it look like to really love where you live?

//TALK

Ice Breaker - What's the most embarrassing fashion trend you used to rock?

Q1 – Have you ever been so focussed on something that you completely ignored what was happening around you or the person who was speaking to you? What happened? How did it make the other person feel?

Q2 – The statement was made “**The most common form of exclusion is inattention.**” Would you agree? Why or why not? What are other forms of exclusion that can creep into our interactions with others?

Q3 – Read **Philippians 2:3-4** - [Read in different translations] In your own words, what is happening in this passage? What do you feel is the base of the Apostle Paul's message here? Why do you think it is so important for the early church to get this?

Q4 – Read **Mark 1:14-34**. [Read in different translations if necessary] What stands out to you in these verses? Take a moment and talk through all that is happening here.

Q5 – The statement was made that “**To follow Jesus is to pay attention and not just do your own thing. It's extending your love outside your circle.** ” Would you agree or not and why? Why do you think this is critical to Jesus' message for his followers?

Q6 – Ask yourself, “Who has God placed in my life as an opportunity to love? What would it look like to learn about and show love to them?” How can you answer those questions this week in your love for others?

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//GO DEEPER

Additional Scriptures to read and discuss: Read 1 Peter 4:8-11. Could this passage be written out of Peter's early moments with Jesus? Why or why not?

//THE POINT

What God is doing is for everybody, not just your favorite somebody.

//MEMORIZE

1 Peter 4:8-9 - 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

//PRAY

As you share prayer requests, take time to personally make requests known in an honest and safe environment. Encourage everyone to write down requests and to pray during the week. Please take a moment and pray for the growth of South Hills Burbank. Take a moment and pray for: the launch of our new 5th service, birthday weekend and Easter at JBHS.