



STUDY GUIDE

RIGHT WITH GOD 9.13.2015

[set up]

True or False? Love is best defined as a feeling of intense emotional connection.

How do you know if you love someone/something?

How does the world define, view and live out its idea of love? How is that different from God's design and intent for love?

[digging deeper]

Read Romans 12:9-12. If you were to summarize these verses in just a few words, what comes to mind?

List all the descriptors in these verses. If you are in a LifeGroup, break into 2-3 groups and divide the descriptors between you and then list them. Now put an action point or two after each one. Answer the question: "What is a practical way I can live this out?" Come back together and share with your entire LifeGroup.

How do these verses help bring extra dimension to the kind of love God has called us to in Christ?

Matt. 5:43-47 John 13:34 1 John 3:16-18 1 John 4:13-21 1 Thess. 5:14-22

Going back to the list that you made, which 2-3 qualities of this radical love seem to come easy for you? Which 2-3 are more difficult?

How can we stay the course of exercising this radical love no matter what is going on in our world?

Does loving others radically mean that we do not have any standards or morals – or that we have to stay silent on issues that are controversial or on which we may have a differing opinion or stance?

Think about these two quotes from Pastor Francis Chan from his book "Crazy Love." How do they challenge you to live out a more radical love through Christ?

"God's definition of what matters is pretty straightforward. He measures our lives by how we love."

"Do you know that nothing you do in this life will ever matter, unless it is about loving God and loving the people he has made?"

[living it out]

Review the list of qualities from Romans 12:9-21 again. Pick one of them that you would like to grow in more, or one that you feel God is working on you to grow in more. Ask the Lord to help you live out that kind of radical love and spend the entire next week looking for opportunities to live out that quality. If you were here last weekend and received one of the “verse cookies,” which one did you receive and how has that been going?

An additional exercise is to write down all of these qualities and use it as a prayer list, “God please grow this expression of your radical love in me.” You could even select a quality from the list for each day of the week and prayerfully look for ways to live it out during the week.

How can you specifically direct this kind of radical love to those on your 10/24 prayer list? What practical action can you take this week to live it out?

Note: In your effort to love more and share the Gospel, have you marked your calendar for the “Unbelievable Gospel” event on Oct 24th (our next Equipping day)? We will learn how to share the Gospel with people of different faith backgrounds.

Close this time in prayer and pray for the content of this study guide and your New Life 10|24 names.