

Deeper Questions

The Essentials: Love God 9/18/16

Welcome (You to Me, Me to You)

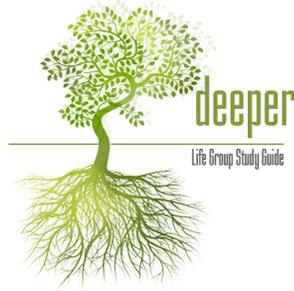
Outside your parents, who has had the biggest impact on your life? What did they do to have that impact?

Worship (Us to God)

Read Psalm 59:16-17... We've all had different weeks with different difficulties, but God has sustained each of us. Spend a few minutes praising God for His love that has sustained you through this past week. Be short and specific: i.e. "Thank you, God, for loving me even when I got angry this week."

Word (God to Us)

1. Is it easy or hard for you to believe that God loves you? What makes it that way? Do others you know believe God loves them?
2. Read John 3:16-17... This is one of the most known and quoted verses in the Bible, but we rarely stop and think about the implications. How does it change you to know that God loves you and saves you? How is His sustaining born out of love?
3. How should we respond to this love God has showed us? Why does Jesus list the 1st and 2nd Commandments in the order He did in Matthew 22?



4. Read Galatians 2:19-21... Paul recognized the love that God had for him and in response he died to himself. What does it mean to die to yourself and align your desires and life with God's plan? What keeps this from happening in a greater degree?
5. Often we take God's love but never do anything in return. Why is it important that we respond as Paul did? What does it tell others when we say that we love God but our lives look no different than theirs?
6. What area in your life is currently not aligned with God? What can you do to align it?
7. God first loved us and died for us. In response, we love God back. Part of loving God is worshiping together and abiding alone. Why do these matter? What in your life shows that you are doing this? What can you do to improve in one of these areas?

Response (Us to the World)

As a group, commit to worship together through meeting regularly and hold each other accountable to abiding alone. Talk about how you can support each other in this throughout the coming months. Spend some time praying that God will help you and give you strength to pursue Him more and more.