



Love Live Lead

The Only Thing

Leader's Notes:

Question 1 - deals with **John 13:34**. This verse contains three distinct ideas:

- a) That Jesus is giving us a new command. Discuss with your group how we should process a command from Jesus, given to us during the Last Supper. Jesus knows He is giving final instructions to His disciples. We should take this command very seriously. You may want to stress the word *command* (*not a suggestion*).
- b) We are to love each other as He has loved us. First, we should understand how does Jesus love us? Jesus loves us sacrificially, Jesus loves us, even though we are not perfect. Jesus loves us through the love of God. Feel free to share other ways so that your group understands His love for all.
- c) How the world will know that we follow Jesus — by our love. Probably something your group struggles with, at least consistently. However, It shows how Jesus' love is central and essential to our identity as Christ followers.

Question 2 - dives into understanding the nature of Jesus' love. His love is not passive, it challenges us to become more like Him and to grow as individuals. I've included a verse from the story of the rich young ruler. It is a powerful narrative that can inspire your group to read the story in its entirety from the Bible. This story also provides an opportunity for storytelling, which can foster trust within your group and allow members to better understand each other.

Question 3 - allows your group some time to discuss **1 John 2:6**. If you're not pressed for time, this question may present some good information for you, as a group leader, on where your group members are spiritually.

Question 4 - discusses how Jesus lived. Jesus lived by maintaining His connection with God. Many who follow Christ struggle with prioritizing their relationship with God as they travel through the day. They might begin the day with prayer, but by mid-morning they're so focused on their work or duties that they've forgotten to continue praying and maintaining that connection. I believe this question will be beneficial to your group in two ways. The first, is simply the reminder that it should be a goal to pray continually and keep that connection strong. The second, is that It may also give them some ideas about how to do it.

Question 5 - deals with leadership and how Jesus leads. We are focusing on Jesus' ability to not be concerned or distracted by the opinions of those He is attempting to lead. His concern is pleasing God. In this question, I included a Scripture about the leaders of Jesus' day. They were more concerned about people's opinions than God's. Use this opportunity to discuss people pleasing and how we should be more focused on pleasing God than others.