

1 Love Comes to Town Week 1 *The Gong Show*
Week of September 28, 2025
1st Corinthians 13:1-2
Discussion Guide

ICEBREAKER

Read together 1st Corinthians 13

Every family expresses love differently - some give hugs and kisses; some eat together; some travel, while others work hard. Share a bit about your Family of Origin. What was it like in your home growing up? Was there lots of talking and sharing about life, politics and family or was yours more reserved and less expressive? How did your family express love to each other? Share an example with your group.

Ⓐ APPLY THE BIBLE

Read together John 13:34-35.

Jesus says: “*I’m giving you a NEW COMMANDMENT*” — the way that I’ve loved you is what I want you to pass on to other people. I’m the model and the way that I love you is the way I want you to love other people.

In John 13:15, Jesus says: “*I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*” **Throughout this study, we will be looking at the way Jesus loves as our example to learn how to love better.**

Q1. Have someone read Leviticus 19:18. What is NEW about the commandment Jesus gives in John?

Q2. List the ways that Jesus loves us.

Q3. How is Jesus’ love different from the way we normally love others?

Jesus’ love was always practical—not just ideological—and one of the ways Jesus loved others was by prioritizing relationships. If ever someone had a busy and important agenda — Jesus did! Yet, Jesus always prioritized people over tasks. Have people read these passages and then answer the questions.

(Depending on time you may want to choose one of the two suggested scripture passages below to discuss)

Read together Mark 5:21-43

Q4. What was Jesus doing when Jairus approached him?

Q5. Why was time of the essence?

Q6. Why did he stop? Describe the encounter.

Q7. How did Jesus love...the woman who touched his clothes? How did he love Jairus?

Read together John 4:1-42

Q8. Why is Jesus' interaction so shocking to the disciples (and if we are honest, to us)?

Q9. How did Jesus love...the woman...the people in the town...his disciples...us?

We can be tempted to say, "Well, of course Jesus had time for people, the culture was much different than ours today!" However, we all value time and tasks—we like getting things done! But Jesus, who was put on this earth to accomplish great things, put people over tasks—every time. It is said that we can tell what is most important to us by looking at our calendars and checkbooks. A healthy relationship with God and with others has the power to keep our commitments to things and tasks in our lives from getting out of balance.

Q10. Think about the way you spend your time and money. What does it say about the top priorities in your life?

Q11. How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you through this lesson? Where is your life more like a "clanging cymbal?" What is God calling you to change?

Ⓑ BEAR BURDENS

Q1. How did you do on the Self- Assessment Test? Share which relationship(s) you would like to focus on throughout this study.

Loving like Jesus may seem overwhelming. Yet in His mercy and grace, He gives us His Spirit to lead and guide us. Pray for one another, asking the Lord to help you grow in love for Him and for others.

Ⓒ CHANCE TO SERVE

Woodside's Church Has Left the Building Day of Service is coming up November 2nd. Groups, families, EVERYONE is invited to participate in this awesome outreach, applying in practical ways all that we will be learning about loving others. Does your group want to serve together? Take time now to decide on a project your group can head up. Reach out to Lisa Gayle, Director of Missions with your project idea: Lisa@woodside-church.org.