

Applying It In My LifeGroup time - 15 minutes

1. Is there anyone you are failing to love, not because you hate them, but because you are apathetic toward them? Is there anyone you need to love more actively?
2. Is any current or past hatred or unforgiveness blinding you? If so, confess it to God, forgive and be forgiven.
3. John has connected “walking in the light” with confessing sin, obeying God and loving fellow believers. Which of these is most difficult for you to put into practice?

Psalm 133

¹ Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!

² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!

³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.

Prayer TimeGroup time - 15 minutes

Lord, thank you for the great love you have poured out on us. Help us in turn to act with love and forgiveness toward our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, that we may truly walk in the light.

The New Commandment

1 John 2:7-11

1. Something old .. yet something new!

2. Jesus: Something new!

3. Love one another.

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of May 7, 2017

Getting StartedGroup time - 20 minutes

1. What are some of your favorite old sayings? What are some favorites from family members?

2. If you were to pick a few favorite sayings of Jesus, what would they be?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

Getting Into God's WordGroup time - 40 minutes

Read 1 John 2:7-8

1. What is the "old commandment" John refers to? Why is it old? How is it also new? **Read also: Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:34-40; John 13:34-35**

2. How is the new commandment already true in Jesus and His followers? How do John's words about darkness and light help us understand the change that has occurred and is still occurring?

Read 1 John 2:9-11

3. Why does hating a fellow believer indicate walking in darkness? What does this mean in regards to their fellowship with God?
Read also: 1 John 1:6-7

THINK ABOUT IT: How does hatred towards another Christian show itself? How have you seen or experienced it?

4. What does loving fellow believers indicate? Why does John say that for this person "in him there is no cause for stumbling"?
Read also: John 11:9-10

5. Last week we looked at the "Obedience Test" for determining if you know God. What would you call the test from this passage?

Read Romans 13:8-10 & 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

6. What is wrong with trying to keep God's commandments without love?