

1. Get Acquainted: Icebreaker

Are you a cat or dog person? Why?

2. Worship: Words matter. Words matter most in worship.

Have fun and use these words in worship. Develop your skills at wonderment and Glory.

Ascribe – to identify as a quality, characteristic, attribute or source. Ex: God is Love.

Extol – to laud, even brag or boast about Godly qualities, to praise highly Ex: What a friend we have in Jesus!

Praise – To express great approval and admiration in a quality of God manifested in his creation or person.

Exalt – To elevate that which is praiseworthy. Ex: My car is amazing, running great and has 234,000 miles. I love that God does not get tired or worn out.

Exult – To elevate due to association with something or someone praiseworthy. Ex: I sure am glad I was smart enough to get Frank to help me buy my car rather than trust my own car skills. God looks out for me in more ways than I realize.

Honor – To acknowledge a praiseworthy quality and treat with higher regard or importance. Ex: Frank is a wise negotiator and dear friend. I am going to ask him to help buy my daughter a car. I love that God has blessed me to live with Frank in community.

Thankfulness – to acknowledge personal benefit to God. I love the way God blesses and benefits me through my weaknesses and limits to help me see the wonder of God in his gift of friends.

3. Kingdom Centered Prayer: Following Tim's lead from Worship

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

1. Worship the LORD, God Almighty, for His wisdom, power and love. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He is willing to work against evil rather than just blotting us all out in His justice and wrath.

2. How have you lived with some vague idea of "loving Humanity" but you've failed to love a particular man or woman? *Confess to Jesus how your lovelessness is wrong, and ask Him to save you from your guilt and deadness.*

3. Give thanks to Jesus for laying down His life in our place – for cleansing us from our sin and for healing us by His power. Thank Him for the gift of His Spirit to live in us to empower us to love truly and not merely with words.

4. Who do you know that struggles with coldness of heart? Pray for them, asking Jesus to work in their heart to transform them and to equip you to love them well. *Ask the Spirit to empower you to serve more than you talk.*

5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear His fruit of love in your heart. Pray that by His indwelling presence in you – because of trusting Jesus – that He would give you a sense of His power enabling you to love as Jesus does.

4. Sermon Reflection: True Love - Who is hard to love? WE ALL ARE!

Introduction: Who are the people in your life that are difficult to love?

What makes them difficult?

- Performance
- Condition
- Circumstances

TimO's example: I decided to make a prayer card with a list of the "difficult people" in my life so I could pray for them. After praying for them for that first morning I realized the only thing these folks had in common was ME. I was the one that was and is the problem. So I threw the card away and made a new list starting with TimO as the first name on the list.

Selfish and Polluted –

- Our selfishness makes us constipated and clenched up.
- Where are you enjoying God's love but not sharing his love?

Grace instead of Justice –

- Grace, Jesus dies for us. Justice, we deserve to die.
- Justice, we acknowledge the death we deserve. Grace, we receive the gift of Life.
- Repentance – Work of Holy Spirit to flip us 180 degrees from Death to Life.

Other Worldly Love

- Clarity – We know
- Sourcing – Holy Spirit in us
- By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.
 - "Ought to love" is a RE-ACTION.
 - Jesus' love for us in his death on the cross is the Love Action that fuels our loving others.
 - Where have you forgotten the love of the Jesus on the cross that in your RE-ACTION to a hard person to love you refuse to lay down your desires for theirs?

5. Mission: Go on a Love Offensive – in Words or Works

Love has 2 expressions – Words of Honesty and Works of Compassion but with many combinations. Each relationship is different so each work of love is different. Think of it. Words and works. Words, no works. No Words, no works. Works and no words.

List a few of the difficult people in your life to love and make a strategy of what to do this week to love them.

Examples:

- Matthew 18 – If a brother sins against you Go and show him his fault (words).
- If he does not listen.... Take a friend with you and show him his faults (words and works)
- Gal 6:1 If someone is caught in a sin restore him gently. (Word or Work, none or either.)
- Love your enemies – Pray for them. Give them food or drink whatever they need. (NO words to them just words to God but works to them)