

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GROWING IN LOVE FOR GOD — PART 2
Make Every Effort — Week 15

ICEBREAKER: What's the wackiest belief you held as a child?

OVERVIEW: Loving God is the greatest commandment of all. There is nothing more important, nothing more urgent, and nothing more rewarding. If there is anything we should focus on in this life, it is growing in love for God. In this discussion we will continue to go deeper with what it means to love God, and how to increase in love for God.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Loving God is delighting in Him, desiring Him, and treasuring Him above all else. What is the difference between delighting in God, desiring Him, and treasuring Him above all else? According to this definition of love for God, how strong is your love right now? Explain.
3. One of the reasons to love God is that it is the fulfillment of all the commands. How does loving God lead to keeping all the rest of the commands?
4. Read John 14:15. Another reason to love God is that it leads to more obedience. How does love for God help us to become more obedient?
5. 1 John 4:19. The primary reason we love God is because of His great love for us. How has God shown His love to you?

6. Read Romans 8:28. Another reason to love God is for the rewards. What are some of the rewards given to those who love God?
7. The sermon mentioned ten signs of love for God. Can you recall some of them? Why signs do you see in yourself? Which signs are not as strong as they ought to be in your life?
8. Read Psalm 97:10. What should lovers of God hate? Why?
9. Read Matthew 5:4, 6. Who does God bless? Two signs of love for God are strong desire for holiness, and a deep mourning for sin when we fail. Do you see these signs in yourself? Explain.
10. Read Psalm 73:25. Another sign of love for God is a strong desire for God. What are the ways that strong desire for God is seen in daily life? How strong is your desire for God? Explain.
11. The sermon mentioned six ways to increase our love for God. Can you recall some of them? What do you need to do to grow in loving God?

The Last Word: "It is a vain thing to say we love Christ—if we slight His commands.... If we love God, we shall obey Him in those things which cross flesh and blood." Thomas Watson