

DISCUSSION GUIDE

LEARNING TO LOVE JESUS
The Gospel of John — Week 45

ICEBREAKER: If you could cure a disease or heal a sickness, which one would you choose? Why?

OVERVIEW: The Christian life is all about loving God. One time Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was. Now remember, the Jews counted 613 laws in the Law of Moses, and Jesus was challenged to pick the most important. His answer is found in Matthew 22:37. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” There is nothing more important or more rewarding than loving God. But how do we do that in our daily lives? In this discussion we will go deeper with how to love God.

1. Read John 12:1-12. What insight, principle, or observation from this week-end’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. What can we learn about loving Jesus from Mary’s example in John 12?
3. How do you need to become more like Mary?
4. How does God want us to show Him our love?

5. Read Matthew 10:37. What does this verse mean?
6. Read Mark 12:28-30. Why is this the greatest commandment?
7. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength?
8. Three things lessen our love for God: 1) Love of sin. 2) Love of the wrong things (money; power; sleep; food; pleasure; recognition; admiration). 3) Love of the right things inordinately (yourself; family; friends; neighbor). Which do you struggle with the most?
8. Read John 15:13. The greatest expression of love for a friend is to lay down your life for them. What is the greatest expression of love for God? Explain.

The Last Word: “Love is a gracious affection of the soul which induces delight in God, admiration of His nature, perfections, works, a desire to enjoy His favor, a disposition to praise Him, and to promote His glory.” William Nicholson