

DISCUSSION GUIDE

3 Ways to Love Jesus
The Gospel of Mark—Wk 73

ICEBREAKER: When is the right time to demonstrate “tough love”?

OVERVIEW: Of all the commandments in the Bible, the most important is loving God. But what does it mean to love God? How do you measure your love for God? And how do you grow in your love for God? This week we are learning how to develop our love for God by studying the example of a man named Joseph of Arimathea. He was not a prophet, or a king, or an apostle; he was not a pastor, or a missionary; but his love for God is both inspiring and instructive.

1. **Read Mark 15:42-46.** 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. Why is loving God the most important commandment? How does loving God impact all the other areas of life?
3. Read Romans 8:28. What does this verse promise?
4. Every promise comes with a condition. What is the condition for the promise in Romans 8:28? Why is this promise conditioned by love for God?

5. Read 1 John 5:3. What is the connection between love and obedience? Why aren’t God’s commands a burden?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 2:9. Does this verse inspire you to love God more? Explain.
7. The sermon mentioned 3 ways to love Jesus: Love is courageous; love gives; and love serves. What are some other ways that love for Jesus is demonstrated?
8. Love is demonstrated through courage. Has fear been holding you back from doing things for Christ lately? Explain.
9. Love is demonstrated through giving. Are you satisfied with your current level of tithes and offerings to the church — the body and bride of Christ? Explain.
10. Love is demonstrated through serving. Would someone be convinced that you love God by observing your service to Him? Explain.
11. What do you need to do to grow in your love for God?

The Last Word: Many Christians in America say they love Jesus, but they spend more money every month on Redbox than they give to the church. Something is wrong with this picture.