

Week 2: Selfless Love

Coaching Video: bit.ly/FCWeek2

INTRODUCTION (15 MIN)

Welcome (5 min)

Last week, we discussed embodied faith and committed to dreaming about what our community could look like.

Share in Pairs: Check in about last week's action step(s). What was it like? How was God in work in you or through you?

Vision + Objective (2 min)

We love selflessly, through our words *and* our actions, because of Jesus' love for us. Embodying our faith through love is the foundation of the flourishing community.

Ice Breaker (8 min)

Discuss how our culture and generation defines love. Brainstorm the different ways we use the word, how love might be expressed differently depending on the relationship, or even how the media depicts what it means to love.

BIBLICAL REFLECTION (20 MIN)

Passage Background

- 1 John is an ancient letter written to ancient churches after Jesus' resurrection. This new community is navigating what it means to be Christ-followers amidst opposition from Jews who don't believe that Jesus is the Messiah.
- The author wrote the letter in hopes of helping the community flourish (1 John 1:1-3). This passage, right in the middle of the letter, digs deeply into the theme of love. John claims that love is a key marker of true Jesus-centered community.

Read 1 John 3:16-24

Observation:

- What words, phrases, images, or ideas are repeated? Which of these might you have skipped over if it wasn't repeated?
- How does this passage define love?

Interpretation:

- How do the repeated words connect to each other?
- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about love?

Application:

- What makes it difficult for us to love each other as described in the passage?
- What challenges or inspires you from today's discussion?

RESPONSE (25 MIN)

Activity (17 min)

Spiritual Journey Timelines: Because love is the foundation of the flourishing community, reflect on how you have personally experienced God's love in your life. Sharing our stories also helps us know one another more deeply.

- Write a list of the significant events in your life and consider times when you felt close or far from God.
- Draw a line graph visually depicting the ups and downs of your spiritual journey and mark the key moments or time periods.

Share your timelines in pairs or as a whole group. Encourage everyone to practice attentive listening to honor the person sharing.

Action Steps (5 min)

- Collective: Brainstorm spaces or communities on campus that you connect with regularly (e.g., engineering library, student center, cultural center, Muslim Student Association, etc.). As a group, spend a few minutes listening to God asking: "How can we demonstrate your selfless love this week?" Decide on an idea to pursue together.
- Personal: Who might the Lord be calling you to love through action? How might you do that? Pray for them and demonstrate your care tangibly this week.

Prayer (3 min)