



SMALL GROUP GUIDE: EXTEND THE LOVE OF GOD

Opening Question:

Share about a time when someone extended love to you in a meaningful way. How did it impact you?

Key Takeaways:

1. Following Jesus means embracing His mission to extend God's love to others.
2. We are called to love both fellow believers and those who don't yet know Christ.
3. Extending God's love requires both action and words - we must share the gospel message.
4. Jesus commissions all His followers into this mission, even those with doubts.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions two ways we're compelled to extend God's love: to the church and to the world. How do you see these playing out in your own life?
2. Read Matthew 4:18-22 and Matthew 28:16-20. What strikes you about Jesus' first and last words to His disciples? How do they relate to our mission today?

3. The pastor says, "We can do Christian things and not actually ever follow Jesus." What do you think he means by this? How can we ensure we're truly following Jesus rather than just doing good deeds?
4. Discuss the statement: "Our greatest need, our greatest commission is to extend the love of God that he sent his son into the world to die for us." How does this shape our understanding of mission?
5. What fears or hesitations do you have about sharing the gospel with others? How can we overcome these?
6. The sermon challenges us to have both a passion and a plan for helping others know Jesus. What might this look like in your daily life?

Practical Application:

1. BLESS Strategy:
 - Begin with prayer
 - Listen to their story
 - Eat with them
 - Serve them
 - Share the gospel
2. Join the "Missional Summer Challenge" group (if available) or create your own accountability system with group members.
3. Identify 1-3 people in your circles (work, neighborhood, etc.) who need to know Jesus. Commit to praying for them regularly.
4. Practice sharing your testimony or a simple gospel presentation with a partner in the group.
5. Plan a way to intentionally extend love to someone this week, both through action and by sharing about Jesus.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for His love extended to us through Jesus. Ask for courage and opportunities to extend that love to others this week.