



Where's the Love?

Discussion Questions*

1. Has your experience with church up until now emphasized rules or grace? How has that emphasis influenced the way you view God?
2. What are some of the cultural consequences of people viewing Christians as judgmental and obsessed with rules instead of a radically loving community?
3. Have someone read this statement out loud to the group: *Your devotion to God is illustrated, demonstrated, and authenticated by your love for others.* Do you agree with that statement? Why or why not?
4. **Read Galatians 5:1-6.**
In what ways do you find yourself trying to be justified to God through rules (the law) instead of through Jesus (grace)? Why is it so tempting to try to earn God's favor by following rules?
5. **Read Romans 13:8-10.**
What is challenging about the idea that all of the law is fulfilled in the command to "love your neighbor as yourself"? What is freeing about that idea? In what ways does love provides more freedom to individuals yet still fulfills the law?
6. **Read Matthew 25:31-40.**
What is one group of people that is different from you that you find difficult to love? Consider that group in light of the above passage. What are some obstacles you would have to overcome to love that group of people?
7. In what area of your life do you see "religion" (or law or rule keeping) affecting the way you interact with people?
8. Do you find the question "What does love require of me?" challenging or easy? Why?
9. Who is one person you need to do a better job of loving? What would that look like this week? Be specific.
10. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
11. How can the group encourage you this week?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.