

LG Fall Week 2 - 9/15/19 I dare you, love others Leader Guide

"I Dare You" message series - Week 2

Getting to Know You

1.) What is one thing you wish someone would dare you to do? This could be something you have already thought you would like to do but you just need that little extra nudge to go for it—like skydiving or asking someone out on a date. **You could also adjust this question to ask, "What is one daring thing you would like to try?" Either way, we just want to get people thinking about going for it and to also just get them talking.**

2.) Since we all know it is not easy to "love everyone always," what are some particular things that really make it difficult for you personally to love others always? **This can be anything from chewing with your mouth open to gossip or politics and religion. We just want people to think about the things that really get under their skin and make it hard for them to do what God has called us to. Hopefully bringing awareness will help bring more control.**

3.) What are one or two meaningful displays of love you have been shown in your life? **We are asking people to be a bit more personal but also making it such a wide open question. If people are not ready to go deep, they can just give a surface level answer. We want people to remember not only to see how hard it can be to love but to also take a look at the flip side and remember how powerful displays of love can be and the positive influence they carry.**

4.) Thinking back to Sunday's teaching, was there anything you heard that stood out to you, challenged you, or confused you? **We want people to have a chance to ask questions or bring up anything they really wanted to talk about or address.**

Into the Bible

5.) Read Philippians 1:3-5. Paul's source of joy for the other followers is due to their partnership in the Gospel. **The key here seems to be the common mission of spreading the good news that brings the joy and unity.** Do you feel you are on a mission to spread the gospel with others in a unified and joyful way? If yes, please explain. If not, what is lacking, and do you have any ideas on how to change that? **The hope here is really to highlight the unified mission of spreading the good news and the unity amongst believers. Often people complain they do not feel connected or unified, but that can commonly be an issue that relates to the person not being on the mission. This can be a touchy subject and should be dealt with delicately; but we want people to know that if they are not on mission, the rest really breaks down and we often wonder why.**

6.) Read Read Philippians 1:6. **Paul is confident that God who started a good work in each follower will see it through to completion.** In what areas are you confident that God will see you through and complete a good work in you or those around you? In what areas do you struggle to have that confidence and question whether good work is happening or will come to completion? How can you get your faith to grow in those areas? **We want people to share the**

areas where they feel secure and free to really trust God and the other areas where they struggle to release and trust God. Whether this is money, relationships, jobs, future, safety, kids, or whatever, we just want people to self analyze. This is not a time to try to fix people's struggle areas and also make sure they are not blasted for lacking faith; we just want to get people to share on this one. Then the best thing would probably be to encourage them to pray about those areas and ask God for a sense of peace and deeper trust.

7.) Read Philippians 1:7-11. Paul's prayer is "that your love may abound more and more" and that we all "share in God's grace." Paul's prayer is that our love would abound, so we want to make sure to apply that and try to live it out. The motivators to point out and be aware of are the facts that it is all through Jesus and that we are all incredibly blessed to be recipients of God's grace. As Christ followers we know that loving others is not optional nor is it conditional on others' behavior. In what areas of your life do you need to work on loving others better? What are some of the ways you could do that? We all have areas and people we could do a better job of loving. It is clear that Scripture calls us to that, so we should strive to live it out. The more specific and tangible ways of doing it are, the better.

Application .

8.) "Loving everyone always" can be misunderstood to create doormat, enabling, or controlling relationships. What are some of the boundaries that you might have that keep your relationships healthy? Are those boundaries really there for the health of the relationship, or do they keep you from the command to love everyone always?

9.) What is one extremely loving thing you think God may be calling you to do? What is holding you back? All of us have a dream of doing something huge or really just blessing the socks off of somebody. We want to think in ways like that and be creative in finding ways to really display love in grand and amazing ways. We also do not want to quit and just say it is too hard or impossible. Use this time to dream; and if it seems right, maybe see if some or all of it may be possible. This may be the start of a great project or endeavor for your group.