

**One Small Step**  
**Week 2: Learning to Love**

**TALK IT OVER**

**KEY SCRIPTURE**

**John 13:31-35 NLT:** As soon as Judas left the room, Jesus said, “The time has come for the Son of Man to enter into his glory, and God will be glorified because of him. <sup>32</sup> And since God receives glory because of the Son, he will give his own glory to the Son, and he will do so at once. <sup>33</sup> Dear children, I will be with you only a little longer. And as I told the Jewish leaders, you will search for me, but you can’t come where I am going. <sup>34</sup> So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. <sup>35</sup> Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Day 1:** John 13:31-35

**Day 2:** Galatians 6:2

**Day 3:** 1 Corinthians 12:26-27

**Day 4:** John 15:17

**Day 5:** 1 John 4:21-5:1

**Day 6:** Romans 12:10

**Day 7:** Philippians 2:1-5

**Start talking.** Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What’s the biggest act of love you’ve ever received?

**Start thinking.** Ask some questions to get your group thinking.

- Read John 13:31-35, then read John 13:1-17. What does it mean to love one another “as I have loved you”?
- How does Jesus challenge the disciples’ (and our) expectation of what it means to be a follower of Him? To love one another?

**Start sharing.** Choose some questions to create openness.

- Do you have difficulty loving people in the church?
- What are things you can do to grow friendships with fellow believers outside of church programs and events?
- How has the church been a family for you?
- What’s the most important thing for people to find when they come to a church?
- Who is someone in your life who has really demonstrated what it means to “wash feet”? What did that person do for you?
- On a scale from 1 to 10, how does your church rank against the standard of love? How could you increase its score?

**Start praying.** Be bold and pray with power.

Heavenly Father, You loved us so much that You sent Your Son Jesus for us. His life, death, and resurrection was a living demonstration of His love for us. Help us to strive to love each other with that kind of radical love. Give us the ability to love even when its not easy by relying on Your love for us. Help us love so that others can see that love and see You in us. Amen.

**Start doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Get to know someone at church. In any size congregation, there will be people we don’t know as well as others. Find someone you don’t know as well and get to know them. Find meaningful ways to encourage them or support them as they follow Jesus with you.
- Look for new people. Visiting a new church for the first time can be a nerve-wracking experience! Without overwhelming someone, keep an eye out for those who are new. Offer to sit by them. Get to know them a little before or after the service and introduce them to others.