

WHAT IF "WE" SO LOVED THE WORLD?

TODAY'S TEXT: John 3:16-18

TODAY'S THEME: The Bible is clear that God loves the world and has a plan to implement His love. You and I are that plan!

I. _____ THE WORLD

A. The Royal Law

- Luke 10:25-28; James 2:8

- > Love _____
 - This is the first priority
- > Love _____
 - It's difficult to love others when one loathes self
- > Love _____
 - It's your calling and purpose

B. What Does Love Look Like?

- 1 Corinthians 13
- > Without love spirituality is _____

II. _____ OURSELVES

A. We Are God's Gift

- > The Church was established on earth to point people to Christ
 - _____ are an _____ part of God's plan to reach the lost

- John 15:13
- > There is no _____ love than the giving of oneself

B. The Church Is The Steward Of Grace

- > Love _____
 - Jesus is our fountain of love pouring out
- > Welcome _____
 - Hospitality and healing must be our trademark

III. _____ OTHERS

A. No Condemnation

- > _____ us (Romans 8:1)
- > _____ us (John 3:17)
- > We are not called to _____ other people's garbage, but to help _____ it up

CONCLUSION: How have you been loved?
How do you love?
How will you love?
Go. Love.

LIFEGROUP STUDY QUESTIONS:

OPEN: Take turns singing or reciting a line from a favourite or popular love song.

ASK: If I wanted to test your patience, what would get you upset the quickest?

READ 1 Corinthians 13:1-13:

- The Corinthian church had fervor for spiritual gifts and power.
 - > What is Paul's point to them in writing v.1-3?

 - > What positive or spiritual things do we sometimes pursue at the expense of love?

 - > What are the seven characteristics of love, as pointed out in v.4-7?
What eight things are not characteristic of love?

 - > Why will spiritual gifts cease to be relevant?

 - > What will endure? Why?

- Have a few volunteers share about a time they felt truly loved by someone else.

READ Mark 12:28-34

- > Why are these two commandments the greatest?

- > How do the Ten Commandments relate to these two?

CLOSE:

- > In the three possibilities of love relationships (God, neighbours, and self), where are you the strongest? The weakest?

- > What have you found that helps love to grow in each area?

PRAY for your group to grow in love for one another and also generally for the "neighbours" in each of your lives. Pray specifically for someone who needs to be open to the love of Christ.