

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Revolutionary Love

Week 5: Loving Your Friends

John 11:1-39

Week of November 14, 2021

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Jesus taught on love. Jesus also modeled how to love. In this weekend's sermon, we studied how Jesus loved His friends. If we love our friends as He did, we will transform our friendships in beautiful ways.

Kicking it off: Who was your closest friend back in elementary school?

Discussion:

1. Reread John 11:3:

*The sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the **one you love** is sick."*

Speculate as to how Martha and Mary became so confident that Jesus loved Lazarus.

2. How can we help our friends know we love them?

3. Reread John 11:5-6:

*Now **Jesus loved** Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.*

Why did John declare Jesus' love for the three siblings before describing Jesus' decision to delay two days?

4. Reread John 11:33:

*When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was **deeply moved** in spirit.*

Can you think of a time that you shared in your friend's sorrow? If so, tell the group about it.

5. Reread the following Swedish parable: "Joy Shared is Doubled & Sorrow Shared is Halved." Why is that true?

6. Reread the shortest verse in the bible (John 11:35):

Jesus wept.

What is the significance of this verse in our lives?

7. Reread John 11:38-39

*Jesus, once more **deeply moved**, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said.*

Deep love can inspire heroic service for a friend. Can you think of a time that someone you know was inspired by love to help their friend? If so, tell the group about them.

Wrapping It Up: Pray for the courage, wisdom, and strength to love your friends well.