



Life of Love Week 3 Discussion & Reflection Guide

Questions and Prompts

- **What stood out to you from Sunday's service?** How did you sense God at work in you through the songs, the story video, the message, and being together with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- **“Love doesn't look to elevate oneself but instead to lift others up.”** Who comes to mind when you hear this?
- Chris shared that pride is sneaky. He shared, “It runs under the surface hiding in ways we don't even notice, subtly derailing many parts of our lives.” **Read Psalm 10:4.** What are some ways that pride has kept you from seeking God and making room for him in your life?
- **Read this quote from C.S. Lewis:**
To even get near [humility], even for a moment, is like a drink of cold water to a man in a desert. Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call 'humble' nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. If you do dislike him it will be because you feel a little envious of anyone who seems to enjoy life so easily. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all. **Who comes to mind when you hear this description of humility?**
- “Letting go of pride means loving God and loving others, with little thought of yourself.” What would it look like to live this way? What's getting in the way of you living more like that?
- Make a list of your closest people (family, friends, coworkers). Next to each name, write a few of their interests and values. How can you lift them up this week by valuing what's important to them?
- **Is there anything else from the message you want to explore more deeply this week?**

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Message Main Points & Scripture

- 1 Corinthians 13:4 - "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."
- 1 Corinthians 13 (Message paraphrase) - "Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, Doesn't have a swelled head, Doesn't force itself on others, Isn't always "me first"
- **Love doesn't look to elevate oneself but instead to lift others up.**
- Luke 14:7-10 - "When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit in the seats of honor near the head of the table, he gave them this advice: 'When you are invited to a wedding feast, don't sit in the seat of honor. What if someone who is more distinguished than you has also been invited? The host will come and say, 'Give this person your seat.' Then you will be embarrassed, and you will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table! Instead, take the lowest place at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, 'Friend, we have a better place for you!' Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests.'"
- Luke 14:11 - "For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."
- **"When we resent what God celebrates, we oppose God."** – Jake Morgan
- James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5, Proverbs 3:34 - "God opposes the proud, but shows favor to the humble."
- Proverbs 6:16-17 - "There are six things the Lord hates—no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes..."
- Proverbs 16:5 - "The Lord detests all the proud of heart."
- Psalm 10:4 says, "In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God."
- **"God resists the proud because the proud resist God."** – Max Lucado
- **God hates selfish pride because it broke his creation.**
- **God hates selfish pride because it ruins relationships.**
- **God hates selfish pride because it puts too much focus on self.**
- **God hates selfish pride because it makes it impossible to fulfill His greatest command.**
- Matthew 22:36-40 - Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
- **God hates selfish pride because it is deceptive.**
- Luke 18:9-14 - "To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers,

adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

- ***“Thousands of humans have been brought to think that humility means pretty women trying to believe they are ugly and clever men trying to believe they are fools.”*** – C.S. Lewis
- **Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.**
- ***“To even get near [humility], even for a moment, is like a drink of cold water to a man in a desert. Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call ‘humble’ nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. If you do dislike him it will be because you feel a little envious of anyone who seems to enjoy life so easily. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all.”*** – C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity
- **Think of others more.**