

## Love One Another

John 13:34-35

### Introduction

“Agape” is the biblical word for love as God intends for it to be expressed. It means unselfish love or concern. It is this kind of love that God commands every believer to have for others. Agape love should be the brand or hallmark of followers of Christ and the DNA, or the core, of the serious Christian. As believers, we represent the character of our heavenly Father to others. When we love like He does, we have the opportunity to visibly communicate a fundamental attribute of our God to a lost world who may not hear our message. Love must be visible to be valid. If it’s invisible love, it might as well be no love at all.

### Getting Started

1. “We love, because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19. *Share with your group a real, concrete way in which God has shown His love for you.*
2. Have you personally experienced another believer’s visible and tangible love towards you? *Share your experience with your group.*

### Let’s Get Personal

1. Love is not an action based on feelings – but, rather an action based on facts. One of the ways God teaches us to love is by putting people we find difficult to love in our lives so we can give the kind of love that’s not dependent on feelings. Think of a person in your life who’s difficult to love. *Share the ways in which you struggle to demonstrate love beyond your feelings.*
2. If we are honest with ourselves, many of us hesitate to give agape love because we’re afraid that people will take advantage of us, misuse or hurt us. But the Bible says, “There is no fear in love...” *What are some of your fears with “placing yourself out there”, putting God’s love in you into action?*

### Take the Next Step

1. Giving others agape love is more than a thought or a feeling. It’s choosing to show care and concern for others in the same way God illustrates his care and concern for us. Loving others involves asking, “What Would Jesus Do (WWJD)?” - right now in this scenario, regarding this person?
2. *Think of a person God is calling you to love. What is one thing you could do this week to show love to him or her in a visible, tangible way?*

### Renew Your Mind

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*  
- John 13:34-35