

— weekly —
**STUDY
GUIDE**

100 HAPPY PEOPLE WEEK 10 // *Love One Another*

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Introduction

Welcome to week ten of the 100 Happy People study! This is the last week of the 100 Happy People series, and we end with the centerpiece of all the ‘one another’ passages- Love One Another. While we’ve touched on this as the foundation for all our relationships and interactions in weeks past, this “one another” is so crucial to the Christian life that we should focus on it solely for the last week of the series. In fact, loving each other is so central to who we are in Christ that when Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment, he gives two since they’re so intertwined- love God and love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:34-40). Love needs to be at the core of who we are, because it’s the core of who God is and what he has done for us.

In this guide you will find questions for your own personal study along with questions to discuss at a Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or at the dinner table with family and friends.

Personal Study

READ

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and consider the questions below:

CONSIDER

1. What do you think was happening in the Corinthian church that compelled Paul to write these words?

2. Religious actions that are void of love mean nothing. What rituals do we observe today? What can be done to safeguard against religious rituals that lack love?

Personal Study Continued...

3. Which examples of love found in verses 4-7 come naturally to you? Which ones do you find more challenging?

READ

Read Romans 12:9-21 and consider the questions below:

CONSIDER

1. Is it easy for you to sense when someone is faking love? What are the clues?

2. Why would people be motivated to appear loving, if they didn't truly mean it?

3. "Live peaceably with all." Easy to say, harder to do. In your life, who makes this difficult? What spiritual disciplines could help you find the strength to love difficult people?

4. How can you try to live peaceably with others during the next week?

PRAY

Pray that love would be the foundation of who you are and everything you do. Pray that God would lavish his love on you so that it would pour out to all those in your world. Repent of any times you might have been following the 'Christian ritual' without love. Ask that God would continue to work in you and help you to be loving to everyone around you.

Group Study

ICE BREAKER

Discuss this question as a group. Who is the most selfless person you know? Share a story about their love and the way they lower themselves below others (even if that person might be in the room)!

Previously we learned this key truth:

1. We are called to forgive one another as Christ forgave us.

Discuss the questions below with your group:

- What new insights or questions about happiness came to your mind over the last week?
- In what ways did you attempt to bring happiness to the people in your life? How did they respond? What worked? What did not?

READ

Read 1 John 4:7-21 and 1 John 3:11-24 and discuss the questions below:

DISCUSS

1. "Anyone who does not love does not know God." That's a pretty strong statement. What is your gut reaction to this proclamation?
2. "If we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us." Love is crucial to the Christian life. What are some ways you regularly show love to other people?
3. "Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer." This is not one of those verses we post on social media or put on a plaque in our homes, but it does reveal God's heart toward hatred and bitterness. In what ways do we justify ill feelings toward others?

READ

Read Luke 6:27-36 and discuss the questions below:

DISCUSS

1. Modern Christianity has received a reputation for being mean-spirited and intolerant toward people who don't share our beliefs. How do you think this happened? Is this indictment based on our actions or an unfair characterization?
2. Using this passage as a guide, how should we treat people who oppose our views on politics, sexuality, religion, caring for the poor, and other divisive subjects?
3. If there is no guarantee that our enemies will ever treat us like we treat them, should we still follow this command? Why?
4. As a group, how can we encourage one another to be better lovers of our family, friends and enemies?

PRAY

Pray that God would overwhelm you with his love. Pray that same love would flow out of you and transform your relationships. Ask that God would reveal ways your group can show God's love to everyone. Pray for your enemies, and ask for strength and boldness to do good to those who oppose you.