

Session Four Assignment

Chapter: In the Day to Day

Key Point

True love isn't a feeling; it's an experience.

- 1) In your earthly relationships, can you trust what you “feel” to determine your love for others or their love for you? Why or why not?

Your eyes must adjust to the inner life of love you live with Jesus. We live in a physical realm where spiritual things often remain hidden. – You. Are. Loved.

- 2) Read John 4:23-24. Have you found it perplexing to understand how to love God and worship Him “in spirit and truth”?

Key Point:

Home is where the heart is, where Love is.

- 4) Write John 14:23 in the space below. Have you ever considered that God the Father and Jesus the Son literally live with you in your home?

- 5) Would you say you dwell with the Father daily, or do you sometimes settle for weekend visitations?

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- 6) How could the thought or imagery of God cohabitating with you affect or alter how you live your daily life in your home? Might it change how often you talk to Him?

- 7) Which fifty percent are you? Did you have a dad in your home growing up? For either answer, express how having or not having a dad at home shaped how you grew up. Consider things like security vs. insecurity, stability vs. instability, cared for vs. uncared for, or think of your own.

- 8) In what ways might early life experiences, whether positive or negative, determine how you relate to God the Father's presence in your home?

- 9) How can the daily presence of Jesus the Son in your home affect how you walk out your daily life and to whom you go first when in need? Remember, He is your Savior, the Prince of Peace, your Groom, the Wonderful Counselor, the Great Physician, etc.

Key Point

Relationship requires investment, serious investment, on our part.

The time you spend in pursuit of the Beloved is in direct relation to your closeness to Him. – You. Are. Loved

- 10) How much time do you now devote to Bible reading and study? Would you call this quality time? Remember, even if it's only fifteen minutes, if it's focused and meaningful, that builds relationship.

- 11) What other ways do you spend time building your relationship with God besides reading and studying the Bible, such as prayer, listening to and singing praise and worship music, walking in nature, etc.?

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- 12) If your time with God is limited, would you say you don't have time or don't make time for building your relationship with Him? What other things do you make a priority that you know could be limited?
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Empty arms reach for the things of this world by default when not embracing Jesus. – You. Are. Loved.

- 13) In number 2 of this assignment, you were led to John 4:23-24, which says we are to worship God in spirit and truth. It was no coincidence that Jesus' encounter was with a woman who had sought fulfillment in human relationships. In the past, what relationships have you used to fill your empty places?
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- 14) Do you have relationships now, even good ones, that you draw unhealthy fulfillment from? Dig deep here.
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If you aren't full of Jesus each day, you will drink what the world offers. – You. Are. Loved.

- 15) The Samaritan woman wanted more, the Living Water Jesus spoke of. Do you want something more alive and vibrant than you currently experience in your walk with Jesus?
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A practical, understandable way to worship Him in spirit and truth is to do it on His terms and in His arena, meaning, going to where He is. Meet with Him in the spiritual realm through reading His Word (truth) and by spending time in prayer talking with Him. God will remove what seems like a barrier between you in the physical realm and Himself in the spiritual realm. He wants to be with you and teach you and love on you. It's God who makes the way. You simply need to show up. You can never know love from or intimacy with Someone you don't make time for in your life. He's not the Sunday Jesus. Don't be the Sunday you and only focus on Him one day a week.

Key Point

It's in the everyday walk that love is proven.

- 16) Even if you are convinced that God is present in your life, have you come to know He is present in your day? How can that change the course of a day as you look and listen for Him?
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- 17) In the smallest details of life, how have you most often noticed His presence? Are you able to share a recent example of when you just knew He was with you?
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- 18) Have you ever considered that Love is pursuing you? If not, then how can that understanding now alter the course of your relationship with Jesus? How might that change the way you want to pursue Him?
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Key Point

Your time alone with God must be a priority, or you will be stunted spiritually.

I admitted how intimidating and overwhelming reading the Bible used to be for me. When I would sit with my open Bible in my lap, I wasn't sure what to do. Unless I was in a Bible study that navigated me around and told me what to read or what questions to consider, I was simply lost.

- 19) Have you ever felt like you're doing your quiet time with God all wrong? Do you see time with Him as simple or complicated, and how do you think He wants you to view it?
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Acts 17:26-28 tells us that God made us to seek Him. It goes on to say that we "might grope for Him" ("feel their way toward Him" in some versions), which implies there may be nuances of seeking Him that we might not fully understand. Groping for something can even imply desperation. If God made us to seek Him and grope or feel our way to Him, then we can know He will help us find Him.

- 20) *Read. Pray. Listen.* Does one of these come easiest to you? Which, if any, is the most difficult sometimes?
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- 21) As you've grown in your walk with God, is there an area in your quiet time that used to frustrate you, but now you have peace about? For example, have you believed that you must read a certain number of chapters every day or must spend a certain amount of time with Him to please Him?
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- 22) Do any of the quiet time suggestions from pages 42-44 inspire you? Is there one or two you would like to try for the first time or perhaps try again if it's been a while? Remember, if one thing doesn't work for you, don't give up.
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- 23) When Matthew 6:33 says to "seek first the kingdom of God," who is commanded to do the seeking?

_____ Every follower of Jesus is invited to personally seek Him. While pastors and teachers can be beneficial to our growth, we are not told to seek them. They can only tell us what God told them. Jesus has a personal message for you through His Word and by spending time with Him.

Throughout the book so far, I've told you how much God loves you and how much He wants to walk with you in intimate relationship. He's waiting for you, but you have a role in this relationship. You get to choose. Are you going to seek Him?