



STUDY GUIDE – June 7, 2020

Message Title: God's Pursuing Love
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This study guide has been designed for Small Groups in mind, and can be used by individuals as well.

Warm-up/Icebreaker:

Share Fun facts - one childhood and one adulthood.

You are God's handiwork, a masterpiece as it says in Ephesians 2:10. If YOU are a masterpiece, then EVERYONE in the world is as well. Let's pray as we prepare to learn more about His Unchanging Love.

Pray:

Dear Lord, thank you for pursuing us, choosing us, and loving us with an everlasting and unconditional love. Your love is limitless and unchanging. Help us to walk in that love and to receive that gift of Your Spirit so that it's possible for us to understand the gift of agape love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Get Started:

Having an other-centered mindset isn't natural. It's supernatural. And our capacity for it is directly proportional to our grasp of who and Whose we are. The more we grasp that our security, significance, and satisfaction are found in Him and not in people, the more secure we are. Reminding ourselves and each other of how God has pursued us and communicated with us helps us to live into that security in Him.

- Describe a significant faith-building experience in which you felt an outpouring of God's unconditional love?

Watch and Discuss video:

To understand God's unchanging love, a person must experience salvation.

Admit - Admit that you are a sinner and need rescuing.

Believe - Believe that Jesus is God's Son and died for your sins.

Confess - Confess your sins to Jesus and receive forgiveness.

Dedicate - Dedicate your life to following Him.

The first three help us understand our posture towards God. However, without the **D**, nothing has really changed. The last part is where you offer all of who you are to God and allow Him to change you to transform you from the inside out. When you do all four of these, you are in a position to receive all of God's agape love.

Read Psalm 103.

The psalmist speaks of blessing the Lord with “all” that is within him, dedicating himself fully.

- How does the psalmist relate his dedication in this passage to experiencing God’s love?
- Reflect on what percentage of your life is dedicated to God and allow yourself to see if there is any area that is not. Share if time permits.

Accepting Jesus is very personal. When you choose to share your faith with your church family, and the world, it becomes public. Jesus was 30 years old when He was baptized, right before His serious ministry on earth. Baptism falls under the category of Dedicate.

- Have you taken this step?
If yes, describe the experience.
If not, will you consider this or have any questions about it?

Reflect and Commit:

Read Ephesians 3:16-21, Read 1 John 3:1, Read Romans 8:38-39.

- Which of these verses is most meaningful to you and how can knowledge of the truths contained in that verse enable you to live a fuller, more abundant Christian life, embraced in and by the love of God?

Pray:

Dear Lord, thank You that Your kind of pure love, agape love, is not conditioned on our good behavior or our good decisions. We acknowledge that You demonstrated Your love for us that while we were sinners, You sent your Son to die for our sins. We ask that you will help us to internalize and apply this kind of love so that we will be strong in You and make a difference in this world. While many things change, Your love never will and we praise you for that. In Jesus’ name. Amen.