

Weekly Study Guide

The week of February 9, 2014

Daily Readings

Monday	Matthew 22:34-40	Tuesday	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Wednesday	Romans 13:8-10
Thursday	1 Peter 1:22-25	Friday	2 Corinthians 5:11-21	Saturday	1 John 2:15-17

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Love in Action*

Next week's readings: Luke 10:25-37, Hebrews 13:1-3

Join us next week, as we continue our series *Love Like Crazy* and explore what it looks like to love more like Jesus in our lives. This week, we will be focusing on how Jesus' calls us to love by serving others selflessly.

first lutheran church

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Group Discussion

Connect	<p>Two questions today. You can do both or pick one. Your choice!</p> <p>What is something in your life that you really love? Describe a time in your life when you felt very loved by someone else?</p>
Learn	<p>Jesus was once asked, “what is the most important thing in life?” by some of the religious leaders of his day. Read Matthew 22:34-40 out loud together as a group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does Jesus’ response say about what he sees as most important in life? What alternatives could we substitute for what Jesus says is most important?• Why is it significant that Jesus doesn’t just say “one thing” but two?• How are the love of God and love of people inseparable? <p>Like in our time, the first churches often struggled with keeping love as the most important thing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take turns reading the following verses from different Christian leaders in the New Testament and discuss how they called the church back to what Jesus says is most important: Romans 13:8-10, Revelation 2:4, 1 Peter 1:22-25, I John 2:15-17.• Discuss why is it so easy for us to focus on other things besides loving God and loving others?• Is the Spirit speaking anything to you through these readings about what is most important in your life? Do these readings bring up any questions for you? <p>In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul addresses a conflict in the early church by calling them back to loving each other like Jesus. He gives a beautiful and compelling picture of Christian love and maturity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pick three people to take turns reading I Corinthians 13:1-13 out loud.• How does this passage give us a picture of how Christ wants us to love each other in our everyday relationships? How is this kind of love different than how human beings treat each other normally?
Apply	<p>Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 out loud again . Have everyone close their eyes (except the reader). Listen for a word or phrase that God is convicting you of in the way you treat others around you. Discuss how God is leading you to love more like Jesus in your life?</p>
Pray	<p>Spend some time praying for each other to overflow with God’s love in our families, networks, and workplaces. Spend some time praying for our church family, that we would be known as a community of “crazy love” for Jesus and one another.</p>