

Flourish

LOVE LIKE JESUS

Erie Campus Discussion Questions

Week of 1/21/24

“Love like Jesus.” It’s what we aspire to do in every relationship—with our family, our coworkers, our neighbors, people at Calvary, and even strangers we encounter. Why does it matter? It matters because some of Jesus’s final words to his disciples were these:

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
John 13:34-35 ESV

This first week of discussion questions in 2024 comes at the midpoint of our series as we ask what it means to love *our family* like Jesus.

Text: Ephesians 6:1-4, Deuteronomy 5:16, 6:4-9, John 19:25-27

Icebreaker: Based on your experience, what kind of qualities make for a good parent?

1. Read Ephesians 6:1-4. How would you describe the parent child relationship?

Application: What kind of commitments or costs might be required for a parent child relationship to flourish?

2. Read Deuteronomy 5:16. Why do you think honoring parents produces a flourishing life for the community?

Application: What observations can you make about communities that do not honor the role of parents?

3. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. With Paul’s instruction for fathers/parents to discipline and instruct their children, how does Deuteronomy describe this endeavor?

Application: What experiences of your parent’s discipline and instruction are you most grateful for? In what ways would you have wanted more discipline or instruction? If you’d like to share, how did your parents misuse or abuse their position as parents?

4. Read John 19:25-27 where Jesus is dying on the cross and transfers the care of his mother to John. How do you see Jesus honor his mother till the end?

Application: What does it look like for adult children to honor their parents till the end? How can you honor your parents as adults? What makes honoring our parents as adults so challenging? How can you honor parents who are not honorable?

5. What do you see in Paul's instructions that reminds you how Jesus loved us as children?

Application: What's your biggest takeaway from this week's emphasis on family? Is there some way you would like to grow to be a better, more loving parent or child? Consider sharing it with your group and asking for their prayer and encouragement to carry it out.