

Psalm 136:1-3; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; John 3:16-17

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Notes

I. **Transformation:** God's _____ is the _____ for all Christian life.

II. **Relationship:** Abiding in God's love keeps us in _____ and transforms us into _____.

III. **Identity:** We are _____ known by God.

IV. **Mission:** We are called to live and _____ like Jesus.

Memory Verses: "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged." - 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Next Week's Verses: Nehemiah 9:17; Ephesians 4:32; Luke 15:11-32

Digging Deeper



Daily Challenges

Choose one or more to do this week.

- Think about the "good deeds" you do right now, and why you do them. Do you do them just because you're "supposed to"? Ask God to change your heart and give you a real desire to love others. As God shows you practical ways to do that, turn those ideas into realities.
- Model God's love to someone you don't know well. Volunteer at a homeless shelter, visit elderly people in a nursing home or retirement facility, or eat lunch with a student who usually eats alone.
- Is there someone you're having a hard time forgiving? Seek that person out, and make an effort to set things right this week. Own up to any part of the conflict that you contributed to, try to see that person's side of things as well; ask his or her forgiveness, too. If that person is unwilling to forgive, continue to pray that God would change his or her heart.

Further Study and Discussion throughout the week

Use the following passages and questions to explore additional Biblical insights about your heart.

Monday—*Hebrews 10:24*
How can you spur others on to love and good deeds?

Tuesday—*1 John 3:17-18*
How can you show love with actions, not just words?

Wednesday—*1 John 4:8*
How is God love?

Thursday—*1 John 4:19*
What has God done to show you love? How have you passed it on?

Friday—*2 John 6*
How can you walk in love?

Saturday—*James 2:8*
How can you love your neighbor as you love yourself?

Talk Topics

Describe a time when you didn't respond in love to someone. How did you feel afterward? Why?

What does it mean to not be "self-seeking" (1 Corinthians 13:5)? Is this easy to do at work and in your neighborhood? Why or why not?

Talk about why being unloving is so harmful to relationships.

Talk about ways you can identify attitudes and actions that aren't loving, and then allow God to help you get rid of them.