

## **Life Group Session 3 Discussion 9**

### **Love that flows from love**

#### **Cross Culture Church**

**Goal:** Now that you have introduced spiritual disciplines to help encourage an ongoing relationship with Jesus that leads to transformation, and you have given examples of seeing life as a seminar to become like Jesus, it's time to learn what it means to start to live a great neighbor life/missional life. *This week a love that flows from love.*

#### **Announce:**

**Christmas Eve Services 4pm and 5pm.**

**Prayer Night 12/31 6pm-8pm**

#### **Connect:**

What are the things you love?

Who would you say loves you the most in life? How do you know?

#### **Read and Discuss:**

When a person receives Christ as his/her Savior, he/she experiences the delight of “first love” for the Lord. God’s Spirit witnesses with his spirit that he/she is a child of God (see Romans 8:16), and this newfound relationship brings great joy and freedom. You can't help but share it.

**Read: 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.**

**Romans 8:16, NIV**

Discuss:

When you think of a parent’s love for a child what comes to mind? Whether it has been a parental figure or your parents themselves, how have they shown you love as a child?

Do you remember your first love? When you were on fire for Jesus? Talk about what that looked like? How were you different?(Did you throw away your secular CD’s or stop cussing, lol : ))  
Love can be foolish in a good way. Share a story about something foolish you did in your love for God.

**Read: 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first...**

**Revelation 2:4-5b, NIV**

Discuss:

Ephesus was faithful but lost their first love. Why do you think people lose their first love and fire for God?

**Repent and do the things you did at first...**

Repent is not a shameful word in fact it is an invitation to think differently. In this case, to get back to thinking like a child or someone on fire for the Lord. Evangelism can be done in many contexts whether we feel it or not, but there is something so beautiful and compelling for non believers when they see us sharing from the love we receive from God first. **Sharing from our first LOVE and FIRE from and for the Lord.**

What if the key to rekindle your first love isn't more bible studies(they don't hurt) or more knowledge. What if rekindling your first love is doing the simple things that you used to do. Praying, sitting at the feet of Jesus, worshiping, smiling for no reason, going to a quiet place and being, telling people why you love God, praying like a crazy person for someone because you believe deep down that your prayers will heal or help.

***Practice:***

We are going to practice a simple act of first love right now. Life group leader is going to read these scriptures over you as you sit and close your eyes. Remember who you are and how loved you are. The voice of God is founded on this one statement, "I love you son or I love you daughter."

*John 1:12, ESV But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,*

*Galatians 3:26, NIV So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,*

*Romans 8:15, NLT So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."*

*Romans 8:16, NLT For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children.*

*1 John 3:1, NIV See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.*

*2 Corinthians 6:18, NLT And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.*

*Romans 8:14, NLT For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.*

*Galatians 4:6-7, NLT And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.*

*Romans 8:17-19, NIV Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*

*Matthew 5:9, NIV Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

*Deuteronomy 14:1a, NIV You are the children of the LORD your God... (We belong to God)*

*Romans 8:28, NASB And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

*1 John 2:28, NASB And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. (Amen)*

***PRAY and BELIEVE FOR SOMETHING RADICAL TONIGHT. Jesus said we would do even greater things than Him. He said it so believe it. Radical miracles Jesus did! You can pray for miracles too:***

- *Raise people from the dead*
- *Healed skin diseases and other ailments*
- *Reunited families through healing*
- *Freed the marginalized*
- *Casted out demons*
- *Healed addictions*
- *Freed tax collectors, prostitutes and thieves*
- *Loved the unlovable*
- *Saved the broken and wicked*
- *United cultures*
- *Pray Bold Prayers.*

***Start praying together for, “Only God can,” stuff. Finish prayer with the Life group leader or a volunteer for the first love of the group to be on fire again.***