



## CONNECT GROUP GUIDE

### Connect Group Guide: WK 14 CHURCH GONE WILD: “The Most Excellent Way — Love”

1. **Read 1 Corinthians 13:1–3.** Paul teaches that even the most impressive spiritual gifts are meaningless without love. Why do you think it's possible to serve God, use our gifts, and do good things for others without genuinely loving them? How does the Gospel challenge our motives for serving?
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 13:4–7.** Paul describes what agape love looks like in action. Which characteristic of love is most difficult for you to demonstrate consistently, especially toward those closest to you? What does that struggle reveal about your heart and your need for Jesus?
3. **Read 1 John 4:7–10.** Scripture tells us that love doesn't originate with us but with God. How does looking at the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus give us a deeper understanding of what genuine love looks like? How should remembering the love Christ demonstrated toward us change the way we love difficult people?
4. **Read John 15:4–5 and Galatians 5:22–23.** We often approach loving others as something we simply need to try harder to do. What is the difference between trying to become a more loving person through our own efforts and allowing the Holy Spirit to produce love in us? What does practically abiding in Christ look like in our everyday relationships?
5. **Read 1 John 4:19–21.** John makes it clear that we cannot separate our love for God from our love for others. Why is it sometimes easier to express our love for Jesus through worship, prayer, or church attendance than through patience, forgiveness, and sacrifice toward others? What might our everyday relationships reveal about our walk with Christ?
6. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:4–7 and 13:1–3.** Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit for the good of the church, not for our own recognition. How can pride, comparison, or a desire to be noticed interfere with the way we use our gifts? How does understanding that our identity and worth are found in Christ free us to serve others with humility and genuine love?
7. **Read 1 John 4:19.** “We love because he first loved us.” How does this truth change the way we approach people who have hurt us, disappointed us, or are simply difficult to love? What is one specific relationship or area of your life where you need to stop relying on your own strength and surrender to the transforming love of Jesus this week?

#### Closing Gospel Reflection:

*The Gospel reminds us that we don't earn God's love by loving others well. We are loved by God through Christ, and that love transforms us through the Holy Spirit.*

As you close your group, encourage everyone to consider this question:

1. Are the people closest to me experiencing the love of Jesus through the way I treat them? Pray that God would help your group become people who don't simply know about His love but demonstrate it through their words, actions, relationships, and spiritual gifts.

