

LOUD

YOUR SOUL IS SCREAMING ... LOVE ME

ICEBREAKER: Think of a time when you were sad, angry or frustrated over something or someone. What did you do to chase away the bad feelings?

1. GOD LOVES ME FOR WHO I AM

God even knows how many hairs are on your head. Matthew 10:30 NCV

The Lord is loving toward all He has made. Psalm 145:17 IV

I am the good shepherd; I know My sheep and My sheep know Me... John 10:14 IV

... God is love... 1 John 4:16 IV

DISCUSSION: Have you ever wanted to share something about yourself but didn't or were afraid because of how others might react towards you? What did you do? In what way did you try to hide it or cover it from those around you?

2. GOD LOVES ME IN SPITE OF WHAT I HAVE DONE

God has shown how much He loves us; it was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us. Romans 5:8 TEV

[Nothing] ... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:39 IV

DISCUSSION: How have you tried to put on the good show for God, in order to gain His approval; His love?

DISCUSSION: What do you think you could do to cause you to be separated from God's love? Do you really believe that He will stop loving you?

3. GOD LOVES ME WITH LOVE THAT LASTS

My God is changeless in His love for me. Psalm 59:10 LB

I have hope when I think of this: The Lord's love never ends; His mercies never stop. They are new every morning. Lamentations 3:21-23 NCV

The Lord ... said 'I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.' Jeremiah 31:3 IV

DISCUSSION: How has your perception of God's love for you changed over time? What have been some of the events surrounding those changes? What do you know to be the reality (cognitively) of God's love for you? How have you experienced His love?

4. GOD LOVES ME THROUGH HIS FAMILY

I am giving a new commandment to you now – love each other just as much as I love you. Your strong love for each other will prove to the world that you are My disciples. John 13:34-35 LB

God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15b GWT

DISCUSSION: How do you allow God to love you through His family? How would you like to experience God's love through His family more?

HOW DO I RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE:

1. I HAVE TO ANSWER GOD'S QUESTION

Jesus repeated the question: "Simon son of John, do you love me? John 21:16 NIT

DISCUSSION: Are you honestly ready to experience God's love?

2. I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN GOD'S SON

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 NIT

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. John 14:6 NIT

DISCUSSION: Do you believe in Jesus as the only way to God?

3. I HAVE TO CONNECT WITH GOD'S PEOPLE

You belong in God's household with every other Christian. Ephesians 2:19b LB

...Love your spiritual family! 1 Peter 2:17b Message

PRAYER PROJECT: Take 5-7 minutes and get alone with God. Quietly ask Him to what degree have you not been authentic with Him and others about yourself. Ask Him to show you some of the things which you are hiding and covering-up. Take another 5-7 minutes and ask Him to show you in what way does He want you to share these things with others in your group. Ask Him what and how he wants you to share it with them.