

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

Life of Love

Jane Stolz's video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

1 John 4: 7-21

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Source of Love:

Love Comes From God

If love comes from God, then love links us to God. Love shows we **K** _____ God.

If love cost God, it will cost **U** _____.

Daily we will be called upon to **L** _____ people who won't **L** _____ us back.

Love Proves God

The best proof of God's existence comes not from an argument but from a **L** _____ of love.

Love **S** _____, like God **S** _____.

Love is a Choice

The alternative to love, however, may be more **C** _____ than we realize.

No choice is made without **C** _____.

How Loving Are You?

Simple Test -

At the end of each day ask, "What did I do for someone today that was messy, inconvenient, or time-consuming?"

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Discussion Questions:

Janie shared a story this evening about a woman who left her family. What was it that made her come back home? How are you at showing your love? Do you talk a lot or do you take action? Could there possibly be a challenge with this story in your personal life right now? (Friend, Family Member etc.)

In talking about Love being a Choice, where do you think the biggest challenge is for you in the way you Love someone? How about your expectations in return?

How did you do on the How Loving Are You Test? What do you think you can do to be more Loving this week? Can you think of someone you can show love to this week that might take more of your time, or that might be a little inconvenient or messy?

In hearing the story about Adolph Coors IV, Do you think you could love someone (with mercy and forgiveness) the way he did with the man that murdered his Father?

HELPFUL TIPS for Great Table Discussions

**Each table should have a designated
Table Host.**

Use God's ear-to-mouth ratio:

Listen two times more than you speak. 1 or 2 people should not dominate the time, and EVERYONE should contribute during the discussion.

- 1. Smile and be friendly.**
Avoid excessive complaining about people or personal problems.
- 2. God's grace rules the day**
Recognize that everyone will not always agree – be gracious and give grace to one another. People are at different places in their spiritual walk and in their life journey.
- 3. Moving the discussion along.**
Table host/facilitators are to move the discussion along. They have permission to limit any negative comments, to invite people to answer a question, to ask someone for their perspective, to limit the amount of time some people speak, and to move on to the next question.
- 4. Help for the hurting:**
This is a supportive group, but it is not a support group or a therapy session. But if someone is really hurting, take a moment and have someone in the group specifically pray for them.