

VALIDATE!

FACILITATORS GUIDE

Meeting # 13: *Chapter 12 – Finding Real Love*

AGENDA: (Suggested times)

10 min. *Arrive early.*

10 min. *Engage each participant as they arrive.*

5 min. *Settle into group, PRAY*

MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TONIGHT:

What would it be like to have someone actually give up their life for you? Imagine yourself in a deadly situation, like being swept out to sea in a rip-tide. You are exhausted trying to swim back to shore and then you see one of your friends swimming out to rescue you. Your friend pulls you out of the swift tide down shore. But, just as you break free from the tide pulling you away from shore your rescuer is pulled under by a shark? You are spared, your friend dies.

Complete sacrifice of self is a good place to start when describing *real love*. That is what Jesus gave to us, it is what He calls us to give to others. When we compare this kind of love to the kind we are offered by the world, it is easy to see why worldly love is so lacking and temporal.

What about infatuation? It often disguises itself as genuine love. What can we do to push through the façade' and the pretention of worldly love that feels so right, to the reality of *real love*? For one thing, *real love* is holy. It is pure. It seeks the best and the best is righteous. It pursues godliness and truth, no shading, no self. Help your group to discern what *real love* produces in a relationship. *Real love* produces Christlikeness!

20 min. *Conversation Starter –*

Read: 1 Corinthians 13 slowly from the Bible.

Discuss: Open the Book to Chapter 12 of the Study Guide (pages 385-389). Take a few minutes to discuss one area that you find particularly challenging to love well. Use this as an opportunity to lead your group in authentic and open sharing.

Discuss overall content:

- What impacted you the most from Steps 1-4 (W-I-S-D)?
 - Scripture – Pick one passage that personally spoke to you and emphasize it each week. Relate it to life and the study.
 - Book Chapter 12?
 - Any insights from Step 4 (your response)?

VALIDATE!

55 min. *Group Study:* Discuss Step 5 (O).

Read the questions and encourage participation by everyone.

10 min. *Have the group complete Step 6 (M).*

5 min. Take time to pray for the individuals and couples in your group.

20 min. We are done, but please stick around for a few minutes if you can and get to know someone better.

Record any significant comments, questions, prayer requests, follow-up here:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.