

Broken Signposts (2 of 7)
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, March 5th 2023



Sermon Series: Broken Signposts | Lent 2023 Sermon Series

Sermon Title: We Were Made for Love

Scripture Reading: John 1:14; 3:16-17; 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7-12

Sermon Focus: Human beings long to love and be loved. We desire intimacy and authenticity within a multiplicity of relationships. It seems that we were made for each other; that we were created for community. So, why do marriages fail, friendships end, and nations go to war? In the second message of our series, Pastor David shares why this happens and how our refusal to give up on love points to a new creation.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Pastor David began by sharing about the love and loss of a family pet. Even though it was hard losing their dog, they got another one a year later. He said they chose to get another dog knowing that it will also die someday. As Alfred Tennyson wrote: *"Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all."* In other words, love is worth the pain of loss. How have you experienced this in your own life? Do you see this pointing to a divine, transcendent reality?
2. Have you ever considered how we know deep down that we were made for love and relationships, while also recognizing how difficult it is to love well in this life? N.T. Wright says this is a "broken signpost" that points to the way things should be but aren't because of sin—a negation of love. In what ways do you see sin manifesting itself in you and in the world that disrupts the flow of love?
3. Pastor David said that love is also interrupted because our loves are out of order (Matthew 22:37-40), and we fail to empathize with others (Galatians 6:2). Where do you see *disordered* loves and people failing to enter the suffering of others? Where do you see areas in your own life that need to yield to love?
4. Ask each group member to read 1 John 4:7-12 quietly to themselves. After that, have someone read the passage aloud. Then sit with the passage as a group for one minute of silence and reflection. Finally, share with each other how the Spirit is speaking to you about this passage. What is God saying to you?
5. In his book, *You Are What You Love*, Jamie Smith writes: "Jesus' command to follow him is a command to align our loves and longings with his—to want what God wants, to desire what God desires, to hunger and thirst after God and crave a world where he is all in all..." What do you need to do (or not do) in order to align your loves and longings with the gospel and hunger for more of Jesus?
6. Close your time in prayer together. First, in response to this week's message, ask each person to share where they need the Spirit to help them live more fully into God's love. Once everyone has shared, close by praying for each other.