



Loving God & Neighbor



A Mobberly Women's Bible Study Project

WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER STUDY PROJECT!



Our team could not be more excited to journey through the Bible with you over the next six weeks. We will explore what it means to love God and our neighbor. We will examine the Old & New Testament Scriptures on how prayer, service, and sharing are a crucial part of how we show others the same lovingkindness God so abundantly shows to us.

We hope you will learn, and grow, and invite friends and family to join you. If you have any questions, need prayer, or want to share how the Lord is working in your life, please reach out – I'd love to visit with you.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alyssa Whitehurst".

Alyssa Whitehurst, Minister to Women
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HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY

This six-week study will kick off on Monday, June 3 at 9 a.m., on our website (mobblerly.org/LovingGod) and our Facebook page ([@mobblerlywomenlongview](https://www.facebook.com/mobblerlywomenlongview)). Each subsequent lesson will be posted online on Mondays at 9 a.m. but can be watched any time after they post, allowing you to study with us from wherever you are this summer, with whomever you invite to join you.

HOW TO STREAM VIDEOS FOR GROUP

Videos can be streamed on Vimeo.com by searching for “Mobblerly Media,” pulling up the website mobblerly.org/LovingGod on your TV’s streaming web browser, or by purchasing an HDMI cable that you can connect to your TV and your laptop/iPad.

STUDY GUIDE

Each lesson section has the Scripture passage printed for you, double-spaced so that you can spend time marking up and understanding what is going on in the text before the video lesson. This time of study is not meant to be exhaustive or overly time-consuming.

Lesson Components:

- PERSONAL STUDY (Complete before the video teaching)
- VIDEO TEACHING (Facebook or Website)
- PERSONAL REFLECTION (after the video)
- GROUP DISCUSSION (after the video)

Digital PDF copies are also available at mobblerly.org/LovingGod.

VIDEO LESSON AIR DATES

June 3 — Lesson 1 (Mark 9)

June 10 – Lesson 2 (Genesis 24)

June 17 – Lesson 3 (Philippians 2)

June 24 – Lesson 4 (2 Samuel 9)

July 1 – Lesson 5 (1 Samuel 25)

July 8 – Lesson 6 (1 Peter 4)

LATER VIEWING

All lessons will remain up at mobblerly.org/LovingGod for later viewing. If you participate on Mondays, that is ok! Watch at the time that works for you or your group.



WE ARE THANKFUL TO THE TEAM
THAT MADE THIS STUDY POSSIBLE.

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LESSON ONE: INCREASE MY FAITH MARK 9:14-29

¹⁴ When they came to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and scribes disputing with them. ¹⁵ When the whole crowd saw him, they were amazed and ran to greet him. ¹⁶ He asked them, **“What are you arguing with them about?”**

¹⁷ Someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you. He has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they couldn’t.”

¹⁹ He replied to them, **“You unbelieving generation, how long will I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring him to me.”** ²⁰ So they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, it immediately threw the boy into convulsions. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ **“How long has this been happening to him?”** Jesus asked his father.

“From childhood,” he said. ²² “And many times it has thrown him into fire or water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

²³ Jesus said to him, **“If you can’t? Everything is possible for the one who believes.”**

²⁴ Immediately the father of the boy cried out, “I do believe; help my unbelief!”

²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, **“You mute and deaf spirit, I command you: Come out of him and never enter him again.”** ²⁶ Then it came out, shrieking and throwing him into terrible convulsions. The boy became like a corpse, so that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus, taking him by the hand, raised him, and he stood up.

²⁸ After he had gone into the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” ²⁹ And he told them, **“This kind can come out by nothing but prayer.”**



MARK THAT TEXT UP

(We've included the passage, double-spaced for room to markup)

- Read the passage a few times.
- Do you notice any repeated words or ideas? Circle them.
- Look back at the surrounding passages and see if they give context to what is happening.
- Write questions out to the side when something is unclear. Look up any unfamiliar words.

KEY PEOPLE (What do you observe about each person in this text?)

- Disciples
- Crowd and scribes
- Jesus
- The father of the boy
- The boy

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- Healing
- Faith
- Prayer



LESSON ONE VIDEO NOTES

What's Happening?

1. The problem
2. The people

What do we learn about God and Neighbor?

3. The prayer
4. The promise

The Big Idea:

Before we do anything in the name of the Lord, we must first come to Him.

5. The challenge



Lesson One Songs for Worship:

- *Help My Unbelief* by Audrey Assad
- *Abide* by Aaron Williams and Dwell Songs

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- Do you tend to jump straight into action before asking God for wisdom and guidance? How might you retrain your mind to pause and approach Christ first?
- What do you currently need to “ask, seek, knock” about? For yourself and others?
- If you were to express a simple plea to Jesus like the father in Mark 9, what would it be? Write it down and commit to praying that prayer.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- How does turning to Jesus with questions and doubts demonstrate faith? What would a lack of faith look like?
- Should our daily lives be divided into things we can do on our own and things we need Jesus’ help to do? Explain.
- What did the disciples do after their failure? How can failure be made profitable?
- How does Jesus’ promise, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes,” strengthen your faith?
- In what ways does the father’s plea, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” resonate with your prayers?
- How can you encourage others who are lacking faith?
- Wrap up your time together in prayer.



LESSON TWO: A SERVANT'S PRAYER GENESIS 24:1-27

¹ Abraham was now old, getting on in years, and the Lord had blessed him in everything. ² Abraham said to his servant, the elder of his household who managed all he owned, "Place your hand under my thigh, ³ and I will have you swear by the Lord, God of heaven and God of earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites among whom I live, ⁴ but will go to my land and my family to take a wife for my son Isaac."

⁵ The servant said to him, "Suppose the woman is unwilling to follow me to this land? Should I have your son go back to the land you came from?" ⁶ Abraham answered him, "Make sure that you don't take my son back there. ⁷ The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from my native land, who spoke to me and swore to me, 'I will give this land to your offspring'—he will send his angel before you, and you can take a wife for my son from there. ⁸ If the woman is unwilling to follow you, then you are free from this oath to me, but don't let my son go back there." ⁹ So the servant placed his hand under his master Abraham's thigh and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

¹⁰ The servant took ten of his master's camels, and with all kinds of his master's goods in hand, he went to Aram-naharaim, to Nahor's town. ¹¹ At evening, the time when women went out to draw water, he made the camels kneel beside a well outside the town.

¹² "Lord, God of my master Abraham," he prayed, "make this happen for me today, and show kindness to my master Abraham. ¹³ I am standing here at the spring where the daughters of the men of the town are coming out to draw water. ¹⁴ Let the girl to whom I say, 'Please lower your water jug so that I may drink,' and who responds, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels also'—let her be the one you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master."

¹⁵ Before he had finished speaking, there was Rebekah—daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, the wife of Abraham’s brother Nahor—coming with a jug on her shoulder. ¹⁶ Now the girl was very beautiful, a virgin—no man had been intimate with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jug, and came up. ¹⁷ Then the servant ran to meet her and said, “Please let me have a little water from your jug.”

¹⁸ She replied, “Drink, my lord.” She quickly lowered her jug to her hand and gave him a drink. ¹⁹ When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, “I’ll also draw water for your camels until they have had enough to drink.”²⁰ She quickly emptied her jug into the trough and hurried to the well again to draw water. She drew water for all his camels ²¹ while the man silently watched her to see whether or not the Lord had made his journey a success.

²² As the camels finished drinking, the man took a gold ring weighing half a shekel, and for her wrists two bracelets weighing ten shekels of gold. ²³ “Whose daughter are you?” he asked. “Please tell me, is there room in your father’s house for us to spend the night?”

²⁴ She answered him, “I am the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.” ²⁵ She also said to him, “We have plenty of straw and feed and a place to spend the night.”

²⁶ Then the man knelt low, worshiped the Lord, ²⁷ and said, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not withheld his kindness and faithfulness from my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s relatives.”



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- Write questions out to the side when something is unclear. Look up any unfamiliar words.

KEY PEOPLE (What do you observe about each person in this text?)

- Abraham
- Servant
- God

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- Relationships of trust
- Evidence of faith
- Prayer



LESSON TWO VIDEO NOTES

- What is happening in the text?
- What do we learn about God? About our neighbor?
- What is the big idea? (How do we apply this to prayer?)

Eliezer prays:

1. Personally
2. Boldly
3. Unselfishly
4. Specifically

Big Idea:

Eliezer asked God to show kindness to Abraham, and then knelt and worshiped Him in praise.

Other Notes:



Lesson Two Songs for Worship:

- *What A Friend We Have in Jesus* by Alan Jackson
- *Bless the Lord, 10,000 Reasons* by Matt Redman

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- What do you learn from the servant's specific prayer for guidance?
 - What area of your life do you need His guidance most?
 - In what ways do you see God's providence at work in your life? If you are struggling to see His provision, pray and ask Him to show you.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- What characteristic of Eliezer's prayer do you find the most challenging? Why?
- What can we know about God's character from these Scriptures?
- In what ways do you see Abraham's life of faith reflected in Eliezer?
- Do you recognize that others are observing your life the way Eliezer did with Abraham? If so, name some ways you demonstrate your faith in word or deed (acknowledging that Abraham didn't always set the right example). How do we handle the mistakes we make in life?
- Name ways you can specifically pray for your neighbors.
- Turn to the Prayer Response Ideas and discuss those as a group. Commit to complete one individually and wrap up your time together in prayer.



RESPONSE IDEAS FOR PRAYING FERVENTLY

As a group briefly talk about the possible response activities and commit to choosing one to individually complete. When you meet again, have a few people share their experiences.

How is praying, serving, and sharing a part of who we are becoming as followers of Christ? This is an ongoing pursuit as we are formed by Christ, not just a one-time task.

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:

1. Group meeting: At the end of your time with this lesson, break into groups of 2-3 and pray for your neighbors by name (and needs if permissible to share those).
2. Call one of your neighbors and ask them how you can pray for them. Then request to pray with them at that moment.
3. Prayer walk your neighborhood, lifting up the homes you pass by.





LESSON THREE: ENCOURAGEMENT IN CHRIST PHILIPPIANS 2:1-8

¹ If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,² make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. ⁴ Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others.

⁵ Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited.

⁷ Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity.

And when he had come as a man,

⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.



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KEY PEOPLE (What do you observe about each person in this text?)

- Paul (author of the letter)
- Christ
- The Spirit

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- Joy
- Unity
- Humility
- Self-interest vs. the interest of others



LESSON THREE VIDEO NOTES

- What is happening in the text?
- What do we learn about God? About our neighbor?
- What is the big idea? (How do we apply this to serving?)

1. You have been _____ into a _____ of people through Christ.

2. As a new group of people, you have a _____.

3. Your new _____ is possible because Jesus _____.

The Big Idea:

Our identity in Christ calls us to imitate the generous service of Jesus. We are called to be "others-focused" instead of "self-focused."



Lesson Three Songs for Worship:

- *King of Kings* by Hillsong
- *The Lamb the Lion King* by Meredith Andrews

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- What does this passage show you about your responsibility as a believer? Your responsibility to the church?
- How are you doing with the things you wrote down in the first question?
- What might you do to ensure that you are being more “others-focused” than “self-focused”?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Why is it important that Paul starts by reminding the readers who they are in Christ, and **then** giving action steps? (Think of the implications if it had been reversed)
- What does this teach us about God?
- Discuss the challenges of truly living with others as your focus instead of yourself.
- How does it help you to live this way when you think about what Christ did for you?
- Who is your neighbor and how can you begin to take steps to live out this message this week?
- Wrap up your time together in prayer.



LESSON FOUR: THE KING'S TABLE 2 SAMUEL 9:1-13

¹ David asked, "Is there anyone remaining from the family of Saul I can show kindness to for Jonathan's sake?" ² There was a servant of Saul's family named Ziba. They summoned him to David, and the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" "I am your servant," he replied.

³ So the king asked, "Is there anyone left of Saul's family that I can show the kindness of God to?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still Jonathan's son who was injured in both feet." ⁴ The king asked him, "Where is he?" Ziba answered the king, "You'll find him in Lo-debar at the house of Machir son of Ammiel." ⁵ So King David had him brought from the house of Machir son of Ammiel in Lo-debar.

⁶ Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul came to David, fell facedown, and paid homage. David said, "Mephibosheth!" "I am your servant," he replied.

⁷ "Don't be afraid," David said to him, "since I intend to show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all your grandfather Saul's fields, and you will always eat meals at my table." ⁸ Mephibosheth paid homage and said, "What is your servant that you take an interest in a dead dog like me?"

⁹ Then the king summoned Saul's attendant Ziba and said to him, "I have given to your master's grandson all that belonged to Saul and his family. ¹⁰ You, your sons, and your servants are to work the ground for him, and you are to bring in the crops so your master's grandson will have food to eat. But Mephibosheth, your master's grandson, is always to eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

¹¹ Ziba said to the king, "Your servant will do all my lord the king commands." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table just like one of the king's sons. ¹² Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Mica. All those living in Ziba's house were Mephibosheth's servants. ¹³ However, Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem because he always ate at the king's table. His feet had been injured.



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- Write questions out to the side when something is unclear. Look up any unfamiliar words.

KEY PEOPLE (What do you observe about each person in this text?)

- King David
- Ziba
- Mephibosheth, son of Jonathan, grandson of Saul

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- The Kindness of God
- Restoration
- Serving Others



LESSON FOUR VIDEO NOTES

- What is happening in the text?
- What do we learn about God? About our neighbor?
- What is the big idea? (How do we apply this to serving?)

1. David's _____ and Mephibosheth's _____.

2. David's _____.

3. Mephibosheth's _____.

Big idea:

God can use our desire to serve with kindness and generosity to change the trajectory of others for the better.



Lesson Four Songs for Worship:

- *At My Table* by JJ Heller
- *Carried to the Table* by Leeland

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- Do you find that you desire to serve others? Are you generous with your time and resources?
- Is there something you are holding onto more than Jesus that prevents you from being generous?
- If not, what might you ask God to transform in your heart so that you can? What small step can you take this week that leads you outside of your comfort zone and expresses God's lovingkindness for someone else?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- What specifically did David do for Mephibosheth? In what ways did David go above and beyond what might be expected of him?
- Did Mephibosheth know of David's promise to Jonathan? Was there anyone alive who knew of it and could hold David accountable? Why might that matter?
- Do you take the initiative to forgive, love, and give to your neighbors? If this doesn't come naturally to you, how might you practice it?
- Are you setting the table for others to experience His lovingkindness? Share ideas about what that might look like.
- Turn to the Serving Response Ideas and discuss those as a group. Commit to complete one individually and wrap up your time together in prayer.



RESPONSE IDEAS FOR SERVING GENEROUSLY

As a group briefly talk about the possible response activities and commit to choosing one to individually complete. When you meet again, have a few people share their experiences.

How is praying, serving, and sharing a part of who we are becoming as followers of Christ? This is an ongoing pursuit as we are formed by Christ, not just a one-time task.

SERVING SUGGESTIONS:

1. Go back to your prayers from the first section and identify a practical way to serve your neighbor through what you've been praying.
2. Look at the list of "Acts of Kindness" on page 34. Which options push you outside of your comfort zone and why? Commit to doing one of these before your next meeting/lesson.
3. Consider inviting women you'd like to build a relationship with for a shared meal. How? Invest 2 hours, use 4 questions to foster intentional conversation, and invite 2-4 women (a mix of neighbors and friends).

This time together doesn't have to be over-the-top or require masterful hosting skills. Invite them (just as they are) into your home (just as you are). The goal is to have meaningful conversations where you all share what is most important in your life. If you serve them in this way, they will walk away with a lasting memory of goodness.

Consider using these questions:

- a. *Describe a life-changing moment (positive or negative). How did it redefine your sense of identity and purpose?*
- b. *How does that sense of purpose impact the way you serve or think about others? What are you doing, or what would you like to do to help meet the needs of those in your context (neighborhood, workplace, city)?*
- c. *Who is God to you? What do you feel when you think about Him?*
- d. *Read Zephaniah 3:17 together. What thoughts about God does this verse bring up for you?*





LESSON FIVE: ABIGAIL, A WOMAN OF ACTION 1 SAMUEL 25:1-35

¹ Samuel died, and all Israel assembled to mourn for him, and they buried him by his home in Ramah. David then went down to the Wilderness of Paran.

² A man in Maon had a business in Carmel; he was a very rich man with three thousand sheep and one thousand goats and was shearing his sheep in Carmel. ³ The man's name was Nabal, and his wife's name, Abigail. The woman was intelligent and beautiful, but the man, a Calebite, was harsh and evil in his dealings.

⁴ While David was in the wilderness, he heard that Nabal was shearing sheep, ⁵ so David sent ten young men instructing them, "Go up to Carmel, and when you come to Nabal, greet him in my name.

⁶ Then say this: 'Long life to you, and peace to you, peace to your family, and peace to all that is yours.

⁷ I hear that you are shearing. When your shepherds were with us, we did not harass them, and nothing of theirs was missing the whole time they were in Carmel. ⁸ Ask your young men, and they will tell you. So let my young men find favor with you, for we have come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have on hand to your servants and to your son David.'"

⁹ David's young men went and said all these things to Nabal on David's behalf, and they waited.

¹⁰ Nabal asked them, "Who is David? Who is Jesse's son? Many slaves these days are running away from their masters. ¹¹ Am I supposed to take my bread, my water, and my meat that I butchered for my shearers and give them to these men? I don't know where they are from."

¹² David's young men retraced their steps. When they returned to him, they reported all these words.

¹³ He said to his men, "All of you, put on your swords!" So each man put on his sword, and David also put on his sword. About four hundred men followed David while two hundred stayed with the supplies.

¹⁴ One of Nabal's young men informed Abigail, Nabal's wife, "Look, David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master, but he screamed at them. ¹⁵ The men treated us very well. When we were in the field, we weren't harassed and nothing of ours was missing the whole time we were living among them. ¹⁶ They were a wall around us, both day and night, the entire time we were with them herding the sheep. ¹⁷ Now consider carefully what you should do, because there is certain to be trouble for our master and his entire family. He is such a worthless fool nobody can talk to him!"

¹⁸ Abigail hurried, taking two hundred loaves of bread, two clay jars of wine, five butchered sheep, a bushel of roasted grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of pressed figs, and loaded them on donkeys. ¹⁹ Then she said to her male servants, "Go ahead of me. I will be right behind you." But she did not tell her husband, Nabal.

²⁰ As she rode the donkey down a mountain pass hidden from view, she saw David and his men coming toward her and met them. ²¹ David had just said, “I guarded everything that belonged to this man in the wilderness for nothing. He was not missing anything, yet he paid me back evil for good. ²² May God punish me and do so severely if I let any of his males survive until morning.”

²³ When Abigail saw David, she quickly got off the donkey and knelt down with her face to the ground and paid homage to David. ²⁴ She knelt at his feet and said, “The guilt is mine, my lord, but please let your servant speak to you directly. Listen to the words of your servant. ²⁵ My lord should pay no attention to this worthless fool Nabal, for he lives up to his name: His name means ‘stupid,’ and stupidity is all he knows. I, your servant, didn’t see my lord’s young men whom you sent. ²⁶ Now my lord, as surely as the Lord lives and as you yourself live—it is the Lord who kept you from participating in bloodshed and avenging yourself by your own hand—may your enemies and those who intend to harm my lord be like Nabal. ²⁷ Let this gift your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. ²⁸ Please forgive your servant’s offense, for the Lord is certain to make a lasting dynasty for my lord because he fights the Lord’s battles. Throughout your life, may evil not be found in you.

²⁹ “Someone is pursuing you and intends to take your life. My lord’s life is tucked safely in the place where the Lord your God protects the living, but he is flinging away your enemies’ lives like stones from a sling. ³⁰ When the Lord does for my lord all the good he promised you and appoints you ruler over Israel, ³¹ there will not be remorse or a troubled conscience for my lord because of needless bloodshed or my lord’s revenge. And when the Lord does good things for my lord, may you remember me your servant.”

³² Then David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! ³³ May your discernment be blessed, and may you be blessed. Today you kept me from participating in bloodshed and avenging myself by my own hand. ³⁴ Otherwise, as surely as the Lord God of Israel lives, who prevented me from harming you, if you had not come quickly to meet me, Nabal wouldn’t have had any males left by morning light.” ³⁵ Then David accepted what she had brought him and said, “Go home in peace. See, I have heard what you said and have granted your request.”



MARK THAT TEXT UP

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- Read the passage a few times.
- Do you notice any repeated words or ideas? Circle them.
- Look back at the surrounding passages and see if they give context to what is happening.
- Write questions out to the side when something is unclear. Look up any unfamiliar words.

KEY PEOPLE (What do you observe about each person in this text?)

- David
- Nabal
- Abigail
- The Lord

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- Kindness vs. Harshness
- Humility and Honor
- Sharing God's Truth



LESSON FIVE VIDEO NOTES

- What is happening in the text?
- What do we learn about God? About our neighbor?
- What is the big idea? (How do we apply this to sharing?)

Abigail Approached David and:

1. Demonstrated _____ and submission.
2. _____ the blame.
3. Reminded David of his _____.
4. Reminded David that he _____.
5. Acknowledged the danger he was in and reminded him that the LORD was _____ him _____.
6. Reminded David that God had given him _____ before and would do it again.
7. Encouraged him not to _____ it up!

Big Idea:

We all have circles of influence that God gives us, so that we can speak life and hope into others in a way that points them to God.



Lesson Five Songs for Worship:

- *Above All* by Michael W Smith
- *Glorious Day* by Casting Crowns

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- What do Abigail's actions teach you about sharing wholeheartedly?
- How do her actions prove her care for those involved? What do your current actions say about how you care for others in your life?
- Write down the names of the people in your life you are most burdened for right now. Spend time in prayer asking God for wisdom on what actions He may be asking you to take for their best interest.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- There are many kinds of rejection. Brainstorm a list and talk about the ones that hurt the most.
- Read Isaiah 53:3-6. How does this Scripture challenge us? How does it comfort us?
- Abigail demonstrated God's love in word and deed. Why is this combination so important? Give an example of how you can personally show love in word and deed.
- What is the first thing David does after listening to Abigail?
- What can we know about the character of God from these Scriptures?
- Wrap up your time together in prayer.



LESSON SIX: ABOVE ALL ELSE 1 PETER 4:7-11

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore, be alert and sober-minded for prayer.

⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, since **love covers a multitude**

of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Just as each one

has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, let it be as one who speaks God's words; if anyone serves, let it be from the strength God provides, so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.



MARK THAT TEXT UP

(We've included the passage, double-spaced for room to markup)

- Read the passage a few times.
- Do you notice any repeated words or ideas? Circle them.
- Look back at the surrounding passages and see if they give context to what is happening.
- Write questions out to the side when something is unclear. Look up any unfamiliar words.

KEY IDEAS (Describe what you learn about each key idea in the passage.)

- End of all things
- Love for one another
- Hospitality
- Grace of God
- Giving God glory
- Sharing God's story and our lives



LESSON SIX VIDEO NOTES

- What is happening in the text?
- What do we learn about God? About our neighbor?
- What is the big idea? (How do we apply this to sharing?)

1. The _____ is near (v. 7)

2. The _____ is near, so _____ on what _____ (v. 7-11).

Big idea:

Because the return of Christ is sure, we can share everything God has given us to steward rather than fearfully or selfishly focusing on ourselves.



Lesson Six Songs for Worship:

- *Graves into Gardens* by Elevation worship
- *Honey in the Rock* by Brooke Ligertwood

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- How are you at being sober-minded and alert? What might God want to do in you regarding this?
- How does your show of hospitality affirm your love for others? What might God want to do in you regarding this?
- How does your speech reflect what is in your heart? Does it regularly point others to Christ? What might God want to do in you regarding this?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- How does knowing that Christ is going to return change your perspective on life today?
- Why is prayer the **first** thing Peter lists as preparation for the return of Christ? What factors in your life keep you from being alert for prayer, and how could you begin to reshape those factors to make time with God?
- Why is it challenging to **maintain constant** love for others rather than love people in specific moments?
- What keeps you from sharing wholeheartedly with others? Fear, selfishness, shyness, lack of confidence, busyness, etc.?
- How can you begin to share with others the gifts (both physical and spiritual) that God has given you? How can this possibly meet the needs of the neighbors around you?
- Turn to the Sharing Response Ideas and discuss those as a group. Commit to complete one individually and wrap up your time together in prayer.



RESPONSE IDEAS FOR SHARING WHOLE-HEARTEDLY

As a group briefly talk about the possible response activities and commit to choosing one to individually complete. When you meet again, have a few people share their experiences.

How is praying, serving, and sharing a part of who we are becoming as followers of Christ? This is an ongoing pursuit as we are formed by Christ, not just a one-time task.

SHARING SUGGESTIONS:

1. Today you may find that you are not ready to jump straight into sharing God's story and your life. This is a part of who we are becoming and how we should invest in others because of the love of Christ. Begin now by committing to pray. Ask God to give you courage, creativity, conviction, and the opportunity to build relationships with others whom He is calling you to share His story.
2. Agree to meet as a group one more time and have 1-3 group members share their stories (a safe place to practice and model how to share).
3. Take your neighbor to coffee or lunch and share your stories. Start simply by asking: "Tell me your story." Leave it open-ended and allow your neighbor to determine how they share and where they want to start. Trust the Holy Spirit to work in this conversation.



Loving God
& Neighbor

EXTRA RESOURCES

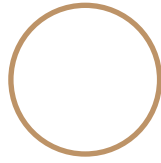
Intentional Acts of Kindness

1. Make dinner for a neighbor.
2. Pay for the person's order behind you in the drive-thru.
3. Write an encouraging note to a widow.
4. Deliver goodie bag to local fire station.
5. Buy a Sonic drink for your student's teacher.
6. Pickup trash in your neighborhood.
7. Bake cookies for co-workers.
8. Give a gift card from local restaurant to a neighborhood family.
9. Complete yard work for elderly in your neighborhood.
10. Deliver "Thank You" cards to local police officers.
11. Leave a gift card for your waiter/waitress.
12. Provide coffee for healthcare workers.
13. Offer to babysit a friend's children.
14. Deliver cards and handmade crafts to a nursing home.
15. Donate coloring books/crayons to local healthcare waiting room.
16. Leave "Thank You" note for service professionals (garbage collector, mail carrier)
17. Tell someone about what makes them special to you.
18. Make and give out homeless care kits (water bottle/snack, toothbrush/paste, bandaids).
19. Hand out quarters at local laundry mat.
20. Wash your neighbor's car and/or mow their yard.
21. Deliver gently used coats to local school for students in need.
22. Write to a former teacher/leader who made a difference in your life.
23. Encounter someone in customer service who is especially kind? Tell their manager.
24. Compliment the first three people you talk to today.
25. Be original! Create your own intentional act of kindness.

REST

God created the world and everything in it. He is perfect, pure, and good. He created man and woman in His own image and designed us to live in perfect peace, intimacy, and rest with Him.

GENESIS 1:26-28



REBELLION

Mankind rebelled against God and as a result, sickness, death, and brokenness spiraled into the world. Because of our sinful nature, we are separated from the one and only, perfect God.

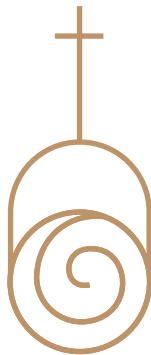
**GENESIS 3,
ROMANS 3:23**



REDEMPTION

God provided a way for us to be right with Him again by sending His Son, Jesus, into the world. Jesus lived a perfect life and died on the cross for our sins, taking on the full wrath that we deserve. On the third day, He rose from the grave, declaring victory over death and sin. God offers forgiveness and redemption to all who repent of their sins and place their faith in Jesus.

**JOHN 1:1, 3:16-17;
1 TIMOTHY 2:5;
HEBREWS 7:26;
ROMANS 3:21-26, 4:25;
ACTS 2:24;
1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-22**



RECREATION

When we turn from our sins and believe the gospel, we are reconciled to God through His Son. Everyone who believes in Jesus is made a new creation, and God promises that one day He will come again to restore all things. We will live eternally with Him and all will be right.

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:21,
MARK 1:15,
ACTS 20:21,
ROMANS 10:9-10,
ACTS 17:30,
JOHN 1:12**

