

HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

STUDY GUIDE

Ephesians 5:15–33, Colossians 2:13–15, Ecclesiastes 4:9–12

Observation questions

1. According to Ephesians 5:15–21, what does Paul say should characterize the life of someone who is filled with the Holy Spirit?
2. In Ephesians 5:21–33, what instructions are given for how husbands and wives should love, serve, and submit to one another?
3. What is the difference between an “either/or” mindset and a “both/and” mindset?
4. What three practices does the message give for becoming “kingdom rich” in our relationships?

Interpretation questions

1. Why can an “either/or” mindset cause us to view the people in our lives as opponents instead of teammates?
2. What does the illustration of a phone being plugged in but not connected to power teach us about the importance of staying connected to Jesus and the Holy Spirit?
3. What does the statement “Position asks, ‘Who’s in charge?’ Posture asks, ‘Who moves first?’” teach us about Christlike leadership and love?
4. Why is transactional living—“I do for you, so you do for me”—different from the kind of unconditional, agape love Jesus demonstrated?
5. In Ecclesiastes 4, what does the picture of a three-stranded cord reveal about the importance of God and healthy relationships in our lives?

RICH IN MARRIAGE

STUDY GUIDE

Application questions

1. Where in your life are you currently approaching a relationship with an “either/or” mentality? What could a “both/and” solution look like?
2. Is there a relationship where you have been waiting for the other person to change, apologize, serve, or move first? What would it look like for you to move first?
3. What “debt” or grudge are you holding against someone because of something they did, or failed to do, that God may be asking you to forgive?
4. Are there any relationships in your life that have become transactional? How could you begin approaching that person from a posture of grace and investment instead?
5. Where have you stopped fully “showing up” in your marriage, friendships, family, church, workplace, or other relationships? What would intentional presence look like this week?
6. If someone looked at your calendar, finances, attention, and energy, what would they say you are investing in most? Does that reflect what you want your greatest treasure to be?
7. In the areas of speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, which one is God challenging you to grow in right now?
8. What is one practical step you can take this week to move first, forgive the debt, or make an investment in someone God has placed in your life?