



HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#) and then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (10-15 minutes) - For Leaders

Have an ice-breaker ready, eat a snack together, or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting if your group is continuing from last semester. Be intentional in helping your group members get to know one another during this time and make it fun.

Ice-Breaker Suggestion: What TV character is the most despicable to you? Why?

CHECK-IN (15-20 minutes) - For Leaders

Ask everyone to describe how their action step went this past week. Last week we asked, what tangible steps can you take this week to cease striving in any area of the empty "P's"?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

The statement "God loves you" can bring about different emotions for different people. For some, it brings hope, but it can be hard to trust for others because of the impact of negative circumstances in life. When we consider the love Jesus demonstrated through dying on the cross, we see that God's love turned the worst defeat in history into the greatest victory. It created an inseparable link between God's love and his people.

1. When you think about people that are hard to love, what comes to mind? What kind of people do we encounter at work, at school, in the grocery aisles, or at roundabouts that are difficult to love?

Now, share a few stories of the most memorable examples of love that someone has demonstrated to you.

2. Some people are easy to love, and others are more challenging. This week we explored some of what scripture says about who we need to love. On a notecard, write down the names of 2-3 people you find hard to love. You will not share these names aloud.

Read [Matthew 5:44-47 \(NLT\)](#), [1 Corinthians 13:1-3 \(NLT\)](#) and [Matthew 25:34-40 \(NLT\)](#) as a review to guide the discussion.

**Inseparable- Week 4**

If we are unwilling to love our enemies, our faith is a sham. What emotions or thoughts well up when you think about this idea?

What keeps us from loving those in our lives that are difficult to love?

3. Loving others is a challenge for everyone. We cannot do this in our own strength. Paul is a prime example of this in the New Testament. He was once a brutal leader who became a great example of love after submitting his life to Christ. Paul's life completely changed when he began to see people the way that God sees them. He became convinced that if Christ loved all people and showed it by dying on the cross for us, he could love people too.

How would your life be different if you sought to view others the way that God sees them?

4. What lasting impact might it make for others if you show love to everyone, including your enemies?

When you consider the names on your notecard, here are three things to put into action this week.

- Pray specifically for each person on your card.
- Be patient with the individual when you interact with them. Don't retaliate if you are in a challenging situation with them.
- Consider restoration with the person if they have wronged you.

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own.

- **Read** *Wisdom of Tenderness* by Brennan Manning.
- **Daily time with God.** Determine the type of routine you'd like to have to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:
 - [Download the Emmanuel app](#) and read the One Year New Testament daily.
 - [Download the YouVersion app](#) and find a devotion you can do daily.
 - If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted **SAVED** to 65248 and read the devotional provided in your starter kit.

**Inseparable- Week 4****PRAYER (5-10 minutes)**

Give everyone in your group an index card. Ask them to write their name and action step on one side and a prayer request on the other. When finished, have everyone pass their cards to the left. Everyone in the group now has someone to connect with throughout the coming week for three reasons:

- 1) To build the relationship.
- 2) To encourage them to accomplish their action step.
- 3) To pray for in a specific way.

Ask them to place the index card on their nightstand or another place that would allow them to see it and use it every day.

GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

To determine how your group can serve together in the surrounding community, email Breanne Schafer, Emmanuel's Outreach Coordinator, at bschafer@eclife.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2 | [VERB](#)

May 8-9 | [Baby Dedication & Mother's Day Weekend](#)

May 16-22 | Last week of Small Groups semester

May 20 | [1824](#)

June 7 | [Impact Team Night](#)

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.



Inseparable- Week 4

MIDDLE SCHOOL OBJECT LESSON & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, watch the [Emmanuel weekend service](#) and then answer the following discussion questions.

ACTIVITY:**Materials needed:**

*music lyric sheet

To play:

Have students sit in a circle. Choose one person to be "it" and give them the lyrics to the provided love songs. Tell them to imagine speaking the words to that special someone and that they cannot smile or laugh. "It" continues until they break, and then they hand the lyrics to the next person in the circle.

This is a silly game about love but loving others is an important part of our walk with Christ.

1. Love has been the focus of our small group time the last few weeks. We are not talking about romantic love. We are talking about God's love, and this week we are focused on loving others the way that Jesus loves us.

Share a story about the most memorable example of love that someone has demonstrated to you during your life.

2. The Bible has a lot to say about loving others. Let's review some of the ideas that God has given us in his Word.

Read [Matthew 5:44-47 \(NLT\)](#), [1 Corinthians 13:1-3 \(NLT\)](#) and [Matthew 25:34-40 \(NLT\)](#) as a review to guide the discussion.

Some people are easy to love, and others are more challenging. On a notecard, write down the names of 2-3 people who you find hard to love. You will not share these names aloud.

Without saying any names, what makes it hard to love the people on your list?

**Inseparable- Week 4**

3. If we are followers of Christ, loving others isn't optional. It's something that God tells us we need to do. We can't do this all on our own. We need God to help us love others well, which happens more easily when we grow in our understanding of who God is. Let's talk about ways that we can grow in our understanding of God to see others the way he sees them.

When you consider the names on your notecard, here are three things to put into action this week.

- Pray specifically for each person on your card.
- Be patient with the individual when you interact with them. Don't retaliate if you are in a challenging situation with them.
- Consider restoration with the person if they have wronged you.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

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