

LIFE Groups: Winter 2026

Week 6 - Love Aligned



Love in the Right Direction

Jesus calls His disciples to love God AND love others, and challenges us in that the way we show love to God most completely is in our love for others, especially those who might be hard to like!

1 - “Check-in” with your Group - Take about 30-45 seconds each to share:

How did God speak to you this week about how He has SHAPed you?

2 - Watch Pastor Scott’s Video for True North #6, “Love Aligned”

Read Matthew 5:43-48 - *Jesus establishes a new understanding of who we love in His Kingdom in this passage.*

- *Jesus equates loving enemies with loving the way God does. Who would Jesus’ disciples have considered as “enemies”? How do we apply that today - who would we consider our “enemies”?*
- *Jesus makes a shocking statement in v 48 - if we love enemies we are becoming “perfect” as the Heavenly Father is “perfect”. The Greek word here is **telos** - meaning “something or someone that is fulfilling the exact purpose it was created for”. What does this say about our purpose as people created in the image of God?*

Spiritual Gifts & Love - *Last week we explored how God has SHAPed us, including spiritual gifts. In the video (and sermon) Pastor Scott shared about John Wesley being moved to love people he had a hard time liking!*

- **Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-13:3** - *Paul challenges the Corinthian Church (and us!) that spiritual gifts mean nothing without love! What do Wesley and Paul show is the primary evidence of being “filled with the Spirit”.*
- **Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-13** - *In this “Love Chapter”, Paul describes more than marital or family love, but how spiritual gifts are to operate in the church and community. Are there any parts of Paul’s “love list” that challenge you? How could you respond to that challenge this week?*

How is God calling you to respond like John Wesley in acting in love for God and others this week?

Spiritual Formation practices: This week we focus on the Spirit’s empowering presence in our relationships and inviting God to bring healing, reconciliation, restoration and unity!

Prayer: Share requests and pray for one another, especially asking God to guide us in developing relationships that honor Him!



Love for others is the greatest evidence of our love for God!



LIFE GROUPS
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True North Scripture Readings

Use this chart to guide your time meditating on God's Word...

Week	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
1 1/18-24	2 Timothy 3:14-17	John 1:1-5, 1:14	Hebrews 4:12-16	Psalms 119 whole chapter - esp. v 1-3, 9-11, 97-98, 105-108	Proverbs 3:1-12
2 1/25-1/31	Psalms 46	Luke 5:15-16 Mark 1:35 Matthew 14:22-23	Luke 11:1-13 Luke 18:1-8	Isaiah 58	Matthew 6:6-15 Philippians 4:4-7
*3 2/1-7	Deuteronomy 6:4-15 Matthew 22:36-40	Psalms 51:10-17 Romans 12:1-2	Colossians 3:12-17	Hebrews 10:19-25	1 Thessalonians 5:14-24
4 2/8-15	Ephesians 4:1-16	Romans 12:3-21	1 Corinthians 12	1 Corinthians 13:1-14:4	Galatians 6:2-10 John 13:34-35
5 2/15-21	Ephesians 5:20-6:4	1 Peter 3:1-17	Matthew 5:1-16	Galatians 5:13-26	Luke 6:27-38

True North Spiritual Formation Practices

Aligning with the Spirit takes intention, and also resisting the pull of the World...

Week / Goals	Align With The Spirit	Resist the Pull of The World
1 Scripture; Be Formed by The Word	Prioritize God's Word - Read Scripture before phone; use the reading chart to align with Scripture at least 5 days this week	Resist Distraction - By reading God's Word before any media, note how it affects your mood, thoughts, and actions
2 Focus; Hearing God over noise of the world	Hear the Lord - Schedule Prayer 3x each day - rising, midday, lying down - at least once in kneeling or a posture of humility	Unplug - Set phone aside during prayer times, silence notifications, push away the "noise of the world" to intentionally "listen" for God's voice
3 Worship; Giving God His Rightful Place	Attitude of Worship - Commit each day to offer God an act of worship with spirit, mind, and body	Resist Isolation - Connect with other believers for corporate worship at least 3x this week
*4 Service; Giving God my Time and Strength	Spiritual Gift of Service - Use the SHAPE survey to consider your unique calling to serve the Church, community, and world	Sacrifice of time - Dedicate a time for service to someone this week (or next) that meets their need - ask the Lord to guide you!
5 Relationships; Love God by Loving Others	Healthy Relationships - Revisit the Healthy Relationships section of your Spiritual Health Inventory - where can you focus this week?	Pray for Others - Is there someone that is hard for you to love? Pray for them, asking God to help you understand their life in a new way.