

LIFE IN THE AGE OF OUTRAGE

Sunday, November 1, 2020 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 2 | **Disgust Destroys**

1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 4:7-21; & Multiple Scriptures

We are sent to love people and invite them
to follow Jesus with us.

Disgust halts our **ENGAGEMENT**

disgust keeps us from loving, it distorts our view of sin 1 John 1:8-10

don't minimize your own sinfulness!

humility & empathy Hebrews 4:15; John 1:14; 8:7

with a world longing to **BE LOVED**

image bearing & the Trinity

1 John 4:8; John 17:5, 24

to be loved and to love!

Matthew 22:37-39; 1 Corinthians 13

All People Matter.

Genesis 1:26-27; 9:6; John 3:16

like we **ARE LOVED.**

You Are Loved!

Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:19; Ephesians 2:4; Luke 19:10

Will you love like Jesus loves you?

John 13:34-35; Mark 12:31



What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a parallel passage of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

Welcome to Life Groups! We're studying the fruit that the Holy Spirit grows in our lives as we stay close to Jesus.

Getting Started

Getting to Know You: Part of our goal together is getting to know one another. *Describe the Christian you know who is the most loving. How do they show love? How does it shape or change peoples' perception of him or her?*

Review your message notes and this week's Scripture. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

** This week's questions are adapted from:
Ed Stetzer and Andrew MacDonald, Christians at Our Best: A Six-Week Guide to
Living in the Age of Outrage (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale Momentum, 2019).*

Disgust v. Winsome Love

As a group read **1 Corinthians 13:1-7**. Paul is speaking here of Christians love.

1. How does this passage define the love that should describe Christians? What should be evident in our love? What obstacles or temptations distract us from being loving?
2. Why does Paul say that without love, "I would be nothing"? Why does the absence of love destroy our spiritual walk?
3. What qualities of love in the passage do you struggle with most when relating to others? Why are these things so difficult?
4. Think about a time you encountered something disgusting, like a foul odor. How did you respond? How does disgust toward non-Christians (or other Christians) reflect a distorted view of others and ourselves?
5. How does empathetic love toward others counteract disgust at sin? How can remembering our own lostness before Christ help shape the way we engage and love non-Christians?

Our third Core Value is "**All People Matter**." We affirm: "*The Bible is clear that all people matter to God; therefore, all people must matter to us. No matter their age, gender, skin color, status, intellect—all people bear God's image and matter to God. No matter who they are, where they're from, what they've done, or what's been done to them—there is no one we would not love and invite to follow Jesus with us!*"

6. What does being made in God's image say about our value to God? (See **Gen. 1:26-27; 9:6**)
7. In what ways should the fact that all people are "created in the image of God" change the way we see others? What does it mean for how we engage those we disagree with? What does it mean for how we engage those who dislike or even hate us?
8. Reflect on a community or people to whom you struggle to show empathy and love. How can disgust seep into your way of seeing them? How well have you engaged and witnessed to this group in light of your struggle?

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In Mark 10, Jesus encounters a rich young man who wants to know what he must do to inherit eternal life. Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him. "There is still one thing you haven't done," he told him. "Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Mark 10:21) As Jesus shows us here, loving others doesn't mean we never speak hard truths.

- 9. Read the next few verses in Mark 10. How can we be loving, yet still speak hard truths? When have you seen truth spoken lovingly? When have you seen is spoken without love? What was the result?

Pray

Share prayer requests in your group, and be sure every person is prayed for by name.

Next, spend sometime paying for our church that we would live out our mission in a Christ-honoring way. Consider praying for the Spirit's help that we might live out each part: (1) We are sent (2) to love people (3) and invite them (4) to follow Jesus (5) with us.



NOVEMBER CHALLENGE

Pray for a Neighboring Church.

Before you close, have someone in your group pull out their phone, open Maps, and search for "church". Spend some time praying for one of the local churches that pop up nearest to you. (If Wawasee Bible pops up first, go to the next one!)

Word Find for 1 John 4:17-21 (NLT)

Find the words **bolded** below.

17 And as we **live** in God, our **love grows more perfect**. So we will not be **afraid** on the day of **judgment**, but we can **face** him with **confidence because we live like Jesus here** in this world. 18 **Such love** has no **fear, because perfect love expels all fear**. If we are **afraid**, it is for **fear of punishment**, and this **shows** that we have not **fully experienced his perfect love**. 19 We **love each other because he loved us first**. 20 If **someone says**, "I **love** God," but **hates a fellow believer**, that **person** is a **liar**; for if we don't **love** people we can see, how can we **love** God, whom we cannot see? 21 And he has given us this command: Those who **love** God must also **love** their **fellow believers**.

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