

Love Beyond Disgust, Oct. 31 to Nov. 3

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

HOUSEKEEPING:

- ➔ WEEK OF PRAYER WITH FASTING, Nov. 10-17 - Urgent and Important
- ➔ PRAYER GATHERING, Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7pm - Urgent and Important

† Love is doing what is best for all according to the Bible

- ➔ “doing” – action, not feelings; a verb more than a noun
- ➔ “best” – highest good, best interests, God’s desires
- ➔ “all” – not just for me or a few people, but all involved
- ➔ “according to the Bible” – as God defines, RSU from USD world

Supernatural Love for ALL people, especially “disgusting”

REALITY: there are people who are “disgusting”...

Truthful application: who are the people who repel you?

Supernatural perspective on loving disgusting people...

Isaiah 55:8–9 (ESV) ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

1. The Assignment: pipelines of God’s supernatural love.

➔ God is confronting us with our assignment

- † Eden – spread paradise throughout the earth
- † Israelites – a blessing to all nations, a light to Gentiles
- † Christ followers – make disciples, followers of Christ

BUT... sinful nature is lured by dark powers away from God

2. The Humility: remember what we were and who we are.

➔ God is confronting our obvious and subconscious pride

The dark powers lure us into comparing ourselves with others, finding those “worse” than us, convincing us that others are less than us so we feel justified in dismissing them.

Romans 5:8–11 (ESV) ⁸but God shows his love for us in that **while we were still sinners**, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (ESV) ⁹Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **¹¹And such were some of you.** But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Ephesians 2:1–10 (ESV) (pew Bible page 977)

3. The Skill: value those who disgust us.

➔ God is confronting our biases

REALITY: Every person is valued by God but not every person pleases God

Application: we must learn to grasp the difference to love supernaturally

We are to love ALL people. Some people do disgusting things. That is a challenge!

It is NOT that things should not disgust us but that we do not allow that disgust to determine what we do, which is a WHOLE DIFFERENT way of life than Earthly Realm. Rather, even when disgusted, we live in step with the Spirit Who determines what we do in response to people who act in disgusting ways, following the examples of Jesus, Paul, Peter and others

Luke 10:25–37 (ESV) (pew Bible page 869)

APPLICATION TOGETHER:

Who are the “disgusting” people you struggle to love?

How do you/we love them supernaturally – practical, in action ways?

Takeaways...