

## Defining The New You

### Christians Only Have Two Things To Work On:

Mark 12:28-34

**Love God** and **love others**.

### Understanding What Love Isn't:

John 14:15-23 1 John 2:3-6 2 John 1:6

Love is not a **feeling**, **emotion**, or good **intentions**.

### Defining What Love Is:

Romans 12:9-21 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 1 John 3:16-18 1 John 4:7-12

Love is a **choice** followed by an **action**.

Love must be **sincere**

- Hate what is **evil**
- Cling to what is **good**
- Be devoted to one another in **brotherly love**
- Honor one another above **yourself**
- Never be lacking in **zeal**
- Keep your spiritual **fervor** serving the Lord
- Be joyful in **hope**
- Patient in **affliction**
- Faithful in **prayer**
- Share with God's people in **need**
- Practice **hospitality**
- Bless those who **persecute** you
- Bless and do not **curse**
- Rejoice with those who **rejoice**
- Mourn with those who **mourn**
- Live in harmony with **one another**
- Do not be **proud**, associate with low positions
- Do not be **conceited**
- Do not repay anyone **evil** for **evil**
- Be careful to do what is **right**
- Live at peace with **everyone**
- Do not take **revenge**
- Overcome evil with **good**

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of May 28, 2017

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This is our final week of the Spring Quarter. Along with an abbreviated study, you'll take some time to reflect on your group experience and then have Communion together. You will also fill out Feedback Forms about your group experience and your plans for the fall. Growth Groups will take a summer break and resume the week of September 17. Thanks for being part of your Growth Group and have a great summer!

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*If you'd like to stay connected this summer, we are offering a wide range of classes between June and August. See the back of this homework for a listing and visit [northcoastchurch.com/classes](http://northcoastchurch.com/classes) for complete class details and to register.*

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## MY STORY

1. Summer is just around the corner! Do you have any special plans, activities or prayer requests for the next few months?
2. Looking back at this weekend's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. This week we heard how as followers of Jesus we take on a new identity. How do the following verses build on defining what this new identity looks like?

**2 Corinthians 5:17** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

**Matthew 5:13** *New International Version (NIV)*

*Salt and Light*

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

**Philippians 3:20** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

**Ephesians 4:24** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Which of the above descriptions do you relate to the most? Is there one you don't think of very often? If so, explain.

2. Jesus' life here on earth has given us an incredible example of love in action. As you read John 15:9-17, jot down all it says about Jesus' actions to those who call themselves Christ followers.

**John 15:9-17** *New International Version (NIV)*

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have

called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.

What part of this passage is the most helpful to you in what it means to live out his love?

## REMEMBERING HOW GOD WORKED

1. Looking back at this past quarter and year, how has your Growth Group experience encouraged, challenged or helped you in your walk with Jesus and in connecting with other people?

2. Jesus knows we forget things we wish we remembered, even when it comes to what he's done for us. That's why Jesus told the disciples at the Last Supper to repeatedly come together and take Communion. Taking Communion is about remembering all that he accomplished through his death on the cross and his resurrection. It is through this sacrifice that Jesus' grace and mercy are made available to us.

This week, your Growth Group will conclude by doing as the disciples did and taking Communion together. To prepare for this, read the following verses and reflect on Jesus' commitment and work in your life as you follow him.

### **1 Peter 2:22-25** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>22</sup> "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup> When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." <sup>25</sup> For "you were like sheep going astray," but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

### **Romans 5:7-11** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

### **1 Corinthians 11:23-26** *New International Version (NIV)*

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

***This Summer:*** Meeting week to week in our Growth Groups helps us stay encouraged and focused on God's priorities, and live out the "New You" as we heard this week. Fortunately for us, God's spirit always wants to grow us from the inside out. As you take a break from your weekly group meetings for the summer, what are one or two actions of love from this week's

teaching that you want to keep in mind this summer?

# NORTH COAST Classes

Growth Groups are on break for the summer and we'll be offering classes on everything from marriage, parenting, and finances to enhancing your spiritual walk. Check out our currently scheduled classes below.

Visit [northcoastchurch.com/classes](http://northcoastchurch.com/classes) to see the most up-to-date class offerings and to register.

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## MARRIAGE & PARENTING

- **United in Marriage** - Mondays, June 19-August 14, Carlsbad Campus
- **On Purpose Parenting, The Early Years** - Dave Enns, Thursday, July 20, Vista Campus
- **How to Talk to Your Kids about Sex** - Dave Enns, Thursday, August 10, San Marcos/ Escondido Campus
- **Thriving in the Early Years of Marriage!** - Connor McFadden, Monday, July 17, San Marcos/Escondido Campus
- **His Needs, Her Needs** - Elise Hartmann, Date TBD, Vista Campus

## LIFE SKILLS

- **Leading with Questions** - Ned Mervich, Monday, June 26, Vista Campus
- **Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts** - Gary VanDerford, Thursdays, June 29 & July 6, Vista Campus
- **Who Am I? Understanding Yourself & Others through the Myers-Briggs Personality Assessment** - Ned Mervich, Thursdays, July 20 & 27, San Marcos/Escondido Campus and Mondays, July 24 & 31, Vista Campus
- **Financial Peace University** - Mondays, June 5-July 31, San Marcos/Escondido Campus and Thursdays, June 15-August 10, Ramona Midweek Campus
- **Writing Your Will** - Stacy DenHerder, Thursday, August 24, San Marcos/Esc. Campus

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- **Christianity 101** - Mike Hodson, Thursdays, June 15, 22 & 29, San Marcos/Esc. Campus
- **Strategies for Communicating Your Faith Effectively** - Alan Shlemon, Monday, June 19, Vista Campus
- **Messiah in the Jewish Holy Days** - Rabbi Barney Kasdan, Thursdays, June 22 & 29, Vista Campus
- **Never Read a Bible Verse** - Alan Shlemon, Monday, July 10, Vista Campus
- **Biblical Foundations Series: God, Christ and Holy Spirit** - Chris Hilken, Jeff Moors & Mike Hodson, Mondays, July 17, 24 & August 7, Vista Campus
- **Discovering North Coast Church** - Dave Enns, Saturdays, July 22 or August 12, Vista Campus



## REAL MAN WEEKEND - "The Palomar Experience" - October 27-29, 2017

We've got another epic weekend planned that will get you recharged and refreshed as a man following God. Of course there will be plenty of other man event options including paintball and skeet shooting on site and sports, hiking, golf, sleeping, eating, etc.

**More info coming soon!**