

Love Wins (If You Let It)

Week of April 1, 2018

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Mark 8:35, Matthew 26:36-46

All that's really "Life" is "love"! Love is what we are looking for in any form we can find it. Even if we find ourselves wrapped up in the day-to-day, we still get glimpses of what's important. But in a broken world, love doesn't win and we die. Death is something no one escapes. So God sent Love into life. His name is Jesus (John 3:16). He introduced people to God through love, grace, and faith. But since we are in a broken world where love doesn't win, we killed Jesus (Matthew 27:22). So God raised Love from the dead! And God will raise us from the dead - if we're willing (John 14:6). Love wins - when we let Jesus in!

Pray

Lord, thank you for loving us! I pray for forgiveness for our brokenness. Thank you for your Son and His sacrifice and thank you that that was not the end of the story, your story. Thank you for raising Love from the dead so that we could live. I pray that we would understand the insanity of our broken and let Jesus into our lives so that your Love could win!

Getting Started

- Share about someone who you know who has loved selflessly.
- Share about the time you first trusted Jesus with your salvation.

Digging Deeper

- Do you agree or disagree with this statement (and why): We love the darkness more than light; we love the illusion of control, we love our sin, we love self...and then we blame God for our broken lives.
- 2. Discuss where people try to find hope and love in the world. Why does Love still not win in these places?
- 3. What part did we play in the crucifixion? What are the differences between us and the Romans?
- 4. Read Matthew 27:57-61. Consider and discuss how Joseph and Mary Magdalene were feeling seeing Jesus placed in the tomb. Discuss how much hope they felt during that time.
- 5. Continue reading through Matthew 28:7. How has their hope changed once they are told of how Jesus was raised from the dead?
- 6. We too have hope in Jesus Christ through His power. Discuss ways you can let Him into your life so you can let Love Win every day.

Living Jesus

We have discussed the brokenness of our world. We have seen the need for Love that was sent into our lives through Jesus and how his death and resurrection have offered us a new life. Let us not grow numb to the awesome power! Consider the hope that presents itself over and over in the Bible. You are called to live a life of noble purpose with eternal impact. You can truly live because Jesus conquered the grave! Receive what is already yours in Christ. Continue to let Jesus into your life so that his powerful Love will give you a new love-filled life.

What's Your Story?

How are you are letting love win in your day-to-day life?

Share your personal story with us <u>here</u> or go to <u>MySevernRun.com</u> and choose Share Your Story under the Forms tab.