

Group Reflection Questions

1. How would most people in our culture define the word love?
2. How would you define the word love?
3. How is Jesus' glorification gained? What does this tell us about glory?
4. What are some ways you could demonstrate love to those around you?
5. How might you love someone you have difficulties with?

April 27, 2008
Relational
John 13:31-38

Sometimes we can look at the administration, structure, and programs of a church and think: this place is quite a non-profit organization (or at least it should be). When we do this we forget Jesus' new and overarching command: Love one another. The center of the church is not the session or the pastor or our programs or our strategic plan—it is relationships. Jesus goes even further. He says, "the way people will recognize you as my followers is the way you love one another." This is a pretty high calling isn't it? Now take this from the other side. If we don't love one another, or even dislike one another, we show the world that we are not Jesus disciples!!! Wow, that pretty extreme isn't it?

Notice Jesus also shows us what he means by love. When Jesus uses the word it is not just a thought or a feeling, it means action. Jesus has just finished washing his disciples' feet. Then he says, "If I'm willing to serve in this way, you should be willing to serve as well." Our love should result in action. Love ultimately is a decision we make. Love is not always an easy decision. Yet Jesus still gives us this command: if your going to live a life as my follower you must love.

