

February 12th, 2023

Lead Pastor, Patrick Conrad

Sermon Discussion Guide

Week 6: Love Matters - Series-"What Matters"

Recap the Highlights:

Love is the defining characteristic of Christianity

- We are formed by Love
- We are defined by Love
- We are redeemed by Love
- We need the love of God to eradicate evil
- Jesus' life was not defined by the advantages He took, but by the one's He laid down.
- The power and impact of love depends on the presence and image of God's love in us.
- Love God first so you can be filled supernaturally with God's love.

In a world of hate, anger, vitriol, fear and distrust - God's love <u>displayed</u> by His followers is <u>all</u> that Matters!

Jesus has given us three ways to contrast His love against the backdrop of the darkness of this world:

- 1) Don't resent or seek retaliation
- 2) Don't stand on your rights
- 3) Don't resist when forced to go the second mile

Now Dig Deeper:

1. Look up the references below and discuss how Scripture challenges us to take on the power of Christ in our relationships.

Scripture References:

Text: Matthew 5:38-48

- John 13:35
- Psalm 139

- Matthew 5:44,
- Ephesians 3:14-21
- 1 John 4:7-12



Love Matters

Respond and Pray:

- A. What will you put into practice this week to fill your love tank and seek the redeeming love of Christ? Who can yo encourage to do the same?
- B. Pray as a group for His power and image to be elevated in us as we seek to bring life to our relationships.
- C. Discuss how to use the following passages to give direction to your relationships this week:
 - 1 John 4:7-12
 - Ephesians 3:14-21