



SESSION GUIDE:

#8 The Handhold of LOVE

8.

Warm-up Questions:

During these weeks together, which two or three handholds have been “The Next Right Thing” to help you make progress, or to sustain you in a stressful situation?

- Why and How?

Here’s a quick review:

FAITH: my security grounded in the finished work of Jesus Christ

GOODNESS: a risk-taking, proactive, disciple lifestyle

KNOWLEDGE: a foundation anchored in peace, life, and hope in God

SELF-CONTROL: obedience incentivized by reverent fear and glory

PERSEVERANCE: enduring when there is no finish line in sight

GODLINESS: humbly looking at myself in the mirror of God’s holiness

BROTHERLY KINDNESS: Love chooses to understand and give itself away



Inductive Bible Study:

Observation (what does it say?) **SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME HERE!**

As you read the text, ask: **WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY, WHEN, HOW?**

Circle and draw lines to similar thoughts.
Notice contrasts and key words.

Interpretation (what does it mean?)

- What are the author’s central thoughts to the reader?
- What is the context (time, place, circumstance, audience)?
- What spiritual principle or lifestyle change is addressed?

Application (what does it mean for my life?)

- What action step would demonstrate my obedience to what God is saying in this passage?

Romans 12:9-11

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

9 Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. 10 And in fact, you do love all of God’s family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more,

Hebrews 13:1-3

13 Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. 2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. 3 Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.



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After you have examined these passages for yourself, share your findings with the whole:

- What defines and describes love?
- How is love practiced?

T E A C H I N G

Love says NO (love is patient) to:

- Envy
- Pride
- Rudeness
- Self-seeking
- Anger
- Keeping records of wrong
- Delighting in evil

Love says YES (love is kind) to:

- The Truth
- Protection
- Trust
- Hope
- Perseverance
- Eternal investments
- Rejoices with truth

Action Steps: Share in your triad:

- How have I learned what love is from someone who patiently says “NO” to self?
- How have I learned what love is from someone who says “YES” to proactive loving?
- For me, which is the harder challenge in loving: to say “YES” or to say “NO?”

Closing: As the whole group makes a circle of solidarity, pray for each other to consistently Do the Next Right Thing as the challenges of life bring trouble and confusion.

You have everything you need to keep growing and advancing in your faith!