

Mystic



✔ Prepare in Advance

- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.
- Provide paper and pens for participants.
- Prepare and display a poster as a focal point in your meeting room with the words “*We love because God first loved us.*” 1 John 4:19.
- Provide a candle and matches.

✔ Personal Reflections

Read the scripture, Romans 13:8-14 and then together watch the *Bible Background Video*. Distribute pencils and paper.

Invite people to look at the John 15:9-11 poster and work alone to do the following:

- Write the paragraph as if Jesus was talking to you personally.
- Insert your name into the verses at least 2 different times.
- Read what you have written out loud to yourself.
- What thoughts are going through your mind? Jot them down.
- Is there any response you want to make to Jesus? Spend some time doing so.

Now, read John 15:12-17

- When you read the phrase “one another,” who comes to mind? Be as specific as possible and list the names on your paper, leaving space under each name.
- For each person who comes to mind, what action(s) of love do you sense God might be inviting you to do? What would it mean to love that person?

✔ Time in Prayer

Spend some time in prayer, using these prompts:

- What are you feeling as you reflect on these things?
- What do you need from God?
- Share your thoughts, questions, petitions with God.

✔ Group sharing

Invite participants to share their reflections with each other (encourage people to just listen and receive each others’ sharing, without any need to fix, correct or advise anyone).

✔ Closing

Close the sharing by passing around a lit candle and having each person voice one word that expresses an aspect of what they have experienced. “Hold” the words with each other and God in silence briefly after everyone has shared.

End by reciting Romans 13:8-10 together.

by Joy Yee