

How We Deal with Others:
Finding a Middle Way with the Fruit of the Spirit

Week 1: The Fruit of Love

Each day mark off 15-30 minutes (or more if you have the time) to pause, say the opening prayer, then read the passage and reflect on the questions. You are encouraged to write your responses that come to mind. Be as specific as your thoughts are. You will find that capturing your honest, unfiltered thoughts will lead you to actions that become transformative. This is how the Holy Spirit grows within us.

Opening Prayer (to be said each day): *Lord, thank you for being with me right now. Settle my thoughts. Speak to me. I am open to whatever you say and however you direct me. And I trust that you want only what is best for me. Amen*

Monday: Read all of 1 John 4.

Reflection: Why does the writer say “do not believe everyone” and warn against those who “do not acknowledge truth about Jesus” and then say “love one another?”

What does love mean according to this chapter?

What does this mean for me right now in my life?

Tuesday: Read Luke 7:36-50

Reflection: Where is love lacking and where is love present in this story? Why?

How can you identify with the Pharisee, the woman, and the disciples in this story?

What does love in this story look like for you?

Wednesday: Read John 15:1-17

Reflection: Why do you think Jesus connects his description of the vine and branches with his discussion about love?

What does love mean for you in this passage?

Thursday: Read 1 Corinthians 13

Reflection: Sum up what Paul says about love in one sentence.

Consider all of the things Paul says love means. Which one is hardest for you? Why?

Why do you think Paul said, “love is the greatest of these (v.13)?”

Friday: Read Mark 10:17-22

Reflection: Why do you think it says in verse 21, “Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him.” (NLT)

What does love look like for you according to this passage?

Saturday: Reflect on your reflections this week. Are there any action steps you feel God would want you to take?