

Small Group Discussion Guide

“I love my church” (pt. 2) – 1/11/2015

Scripture: Ephesians 5:25-27

Bottom Line: Jesus will always love his church.

INTRODUCTION: Name something that you have, over the years, completely changed your opinion on? It could be a sports team, political opinions, church music style, food preferences, hobbies, etc. It is guaranteed that you will one day change your opinion about something that you once felt passionately about. Thankfully, God is not like us in this way. He has always passionately loved his church and he always will!

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read Ephesians 5:25-27

How does God feel about the church based on this passage?

- Jesus loves the church and gave himself up for her.
 - What is the most sacrificial act of love you have ever seen?
- Jesus made the church holy, and will present the church to himself without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish.
 - Do you view yourself this way?
 - Jesus has made you completely holy. (Hebrews 10:14)
- The church is his bride. He takes great enjoyment in the radiance of his bride.
 - Even though the church is not perfect, how should we view the church?

What does this passage teach us about love?

- Love is an action not just a feeling. Paul commands husbands to love their wives. This kind of love is given example by how Jesus loves us. We know that his love for us was not just a feeling, but sacrifice of the highest degree. We should seek to imitate this.

Why does God make broken people perfect?

- To point toward his goodness. It is amazing that God takes broken people and points other broken people to himself through their witness.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

What changes can you make to your life to better live by this passage?

- Would you believe that you are loved in the way this passage says?
- In all you do, point to Jesus & Go all in with us as a church.