

Life Group Discussion Guide

Healing Well - November 22

LEADER NOTES

For the next two weeks we will be hearing from Mike Howerton, who has become a great friend to the ALC staff in the past several months. Mike is a former lead and teaching pastor, and has a deep love for the local church. As we come to the close of the Healing Well series, Mike is going to teach about what it looks like to live in a broken world with love and courage.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

THIS WEEK'S TEXT

John 11:20-37

"You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ *But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also.* ⁴⁰ *If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too.* ⁴¹ *If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles.* ⁴² *Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow.*

⁴³ *"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy.* ⁴⁴ *But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!* ⁴⁵ *In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.* ⁴⁶ *If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much.* ⁴⁷ *If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that.* ⁴⁸ *But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.*

LOOK UP

According to this week's text, what does it look like to act as "true children" of God?

How does the kind of behavior advocated for in this text reflect the character and behavior of God?

LOOK AROUND

List some difference definitions of the word "love". How is the love that comes from God different than other common uses for the word?

What are some examples of Common Grace, the gifts from God that everyone experiences?

Think of the people that you find most difficult to love. What excuses do you normally give yourself to not show them love?

LOOK AHEAD

How can you show outlandish love in the middle of a pandemic?

PRAYER