

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH – PART 2 OF 3

Series Title: Loving Strong

Lesson Title: Loving God's People

Key Scriptures: Matthew 22:37-39

Homework Instructions: This series will cover three weeks of lessons for the month of February (February 4th, 11th and 18th) and includes homework for each week.

You should complete the homework assignment for each week before class. However, you are welcome to go ahead and complete all homework assignments in advance if you would like to.

Lesson Overview

In last week's lesson we discussed the "first and great commandment", which concerns our love for God. This week, we're talking about the very next verse of that same scripture – Love your neighbor as yourself!

We can't just love God and call it a day – we have to love our neighbors too. Scripture seems to imply that it is equally as important as loving God. And if you find yourself wondering how you will accomplish this "challenging" assignment, just remember, you are someone's neighbor as well. 😊

This week we will cover:

- 1. Loving God's People Through Fellowship**
 - 2. Loving God's People Through Service**
 - 3. Loving God's People Through Giving**
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1. Loving God's People Through Fellowship

One of the ways that we can love God's people is through fellowship. God's life system of "the local church" facilitates fellowship as we come together for worship, hearing the Word of God and more.

Psalms 133:1 says, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! You may come in the door with the day's trials on your mind, but after spending time in fellowship with the saints, you will leave encouraged and strengthened.

2. Loving God's People Through Service

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

Service is an important part of loving God's people. God has given each of us gifts and talents to be used to advance His kingdom – and that kingdom-advancing work is done through the local church.

Whether you are cleaning the church, working in the parking lot, doing the church announcements, serving as an administrator, working in the ministry arts, teaching the youth or using your particular gifts and talents in some other capacity, everything you do to share your gift is showing love to those who will benefit from it – God's people.

If you aren't serving on a ministry yet, visit our website at harvestlife.org to select a ministry to join!

3. Loving God's People Through Giving

When we give cheerfully in tithing, offering and special giving, it blesses the church and it also blesses us – the givers. Malachi 3:10 says that if we give, we'll receive a blessing that we don't even have room for! In Malachi 3:8-9, God says that when we don't give in our tithes and offerings we rob the whole nation.

Part of loving God's people is giving sacrificially to help God's Vision for our

church come to pass. As a church family, we have to pull together – giving our time, our talents and yes, our treasure. And as we give toward our New Worship Center, we can rejoice about all of the souls we are making room for. Remember our lesson from last week – you can't love without giving!

When it's all said and done, loving God's people is just an extension of loving God. 1 John 4:20 says, If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH – PART 2 OF 3

Loving Strong: Loving God's People

1. **True or False** – Three ways that we can show our love for God's people are through fellowship, serving and giving.

- a. True
- b. False

2. **Fill in the Blanks** – Psalm 133:1 says, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to _____ in _____!

3. **True or False** – God's life system of "the local church" facilitates fellowship.

- a. True
- b. False

4. **Write out the scripture, Galatians 6:10:**

5. **True or False** – You can sign up to serve on a church ministry at harvestlife.org.

- a. True
- b. False

6. **Circle the Correct Answer.** What scripture says that if we give, we'll receive a blessing that we don't even have room for?

- a. Matthew 1:22
- b. Genesis 1:3
- c. Malachi 3:10
- d. Revelation 1:12