

Small Group Questions

Better at 70

© 2016 Seacoast Church. All Rights Reserved.

Read

John 10:10 and 13:34–35; 1 Peter 5:8; Joshua 1:8; James 1: 2–4 and 5:16; and Psalm 23:4–6

Reflect

In John 10:10, Jesus says that he came so that we may have life and have it abundantly. But we must also pay careful attention to the beginning of that verse. The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy. Jesus gives us a vision of the life and relationships he wants for us, but he lets us know it's not likely to be an easy road. We will have to persevere through difficult things that the enemy would love to use against us.

Pastor Josh Walters and his wife, Katie, offer us three lessons to help keep love alive in our relationships:

1. Blessing follows obedience.
 - a. Is there a step you don't want to take, but you know in your heart God is telling you it is necessary?
 - b. What gaps are you allowing the enemy to use and exploit?
 - c. Are you finding yourself hiding things, or questioning God? If so, discuss why that might be.
 - d. If you find yourself pulling away from those you love and have committed to, how willing are you to ask, "What if it's me?"
 - e. Who comes to mind when you think of a relationship you admire?
 - i. Do you know their story...what they've walked through to reach that point in their relationship?
 - f. What first step can you take...or commit to God?
2. God is love.
 - a. Do you believe God's words over us are filled with love—even on our worst, most sinful days?
 - i. How have you experienced his love during your worst times?
 - b. Are you allowing yourself to rest and recover in his love? Or are you letting guilt, shame, or pain isolate you from him?
 - c. Sometimes, we may want to feel love for someone, but we just...don't. Have you asked God to replace your imperfect love with his?
 - i. How willing are you to do this?
3. Don't fight alone.
 - a. Is there a wise couple, or person, with whom you can share your troubles and your hopes?
 - b. Do you tend to push things under the rug, using excuses like busyness to not address issues?
 - c. In what ways have you seen God bless and heal someone who confessed their weaknesses and sins with humility and honesty?
 - d. If you are on the other side of a difficult time, are you sharing your experiences to help others?
4. New life is just around the corner.
 - a. Whose voice are you listening to? The accuser? Or your Father who gives hope and a future?
 - b. A true change of heart may take time and be painful. Will you accept God's path to healing?
 - c. Once through a rocky time, in what ways do you now see your relationship differently?
 - d. Could this be the day—the moment—when everything changes?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?