

## **Small Group Questions: United We Stand?**

### **Series: A Different Kind of Love**

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#### **Read**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 5:21; 1 Peter 4:8; James 5:16; 1 John 4:16; Genesis 50:20

#### **Reflect**

We base love off of compatibility rather than capacity, hindering ourselves from fully experiencing the love God has designed for us. Love based off compatibility rather than capacity will temporarily fit but it won't endure. The Bible demonstrates and teaches us that God's love is beyond capable of bearing our sins, our traumas, and our humanity. He sent his only son to earth to be fully human yet distribute the fullness of God's love for us. When we accept God's definition of love, and not what culture tells us love is, we are then able to freely give that love to one another. We cannot give away something we have yet to receive ourselves.

Pastor Jimmy Rollins encourages us to bring whatever it is we are dealing with to God because his love will indefinitely hold.

#### **1. A Love that Covers my History**

- a. When was the last time you shared with your spouse something that you are struggling with that exposes your past?
  - i. If never, what do you need in order to do so?
- b. How can you be a safe place for your spouse to expose their history to you?
- c. Do you believe the love you are distributing to your spouse is the blueprint of God's love for us?
  - i. If not, what can we change inwardly to be more Christ-like in our love?

#### **2. A Love that Endures my Humanity**

- a. In what ways can you show your spouse that their mess, or humanity, doesn't scare you away?
- b. How can we expose our humanity to one another?
- c. Where in the Bible does Jesus demonstrate loving people through their humanity?

#### **3. A Love that Forgives Purposely**

- a. If anything, what is hindering you from fully receiving God's forgiveness and love for yourself?
- b. Give an example of a time you approached God honestly with your own history and humanity. What was the result of that honesty?
- c. The forgiveness and love that God gives us (if received) is designed to flow through us. Who in your life needs to experience that kind of forgiveness and love through you?
  - i. What will you do about it?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?