

ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

Have you ever had a time when you were excited and celebrated the loss or misfortune of someone or something else? Examples could include the airing of a celebrity's dirty laundry, the loss of a rival Sports team, or the public scandal of a politician.

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Anchor Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:1-6

Paul continues his instruction to the Corinthian church by examining how love does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. In our post-truth society, our culture often celebrates things that counter the truth. Paul's message to the Corinthian church is radical for us today as we grapple with understanding and living out truth of the gospel in our lives.

INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

- 1. Read Isaiah 5:20 and Proverbs 17:15. How do you see wrongdoing and evil celebrated in our culture today?
- 2. Read 1 Peter 4:3-4, Proverbs 17:9, and Romans 12:9-10. In these passages, we see that love does not:
 - Hope others will sin
 - Gossip about sin
 - Join in sin.

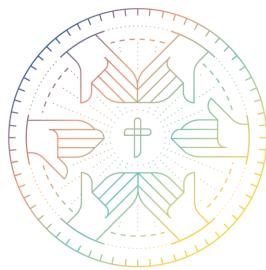
What sticks out to you from these three aspects, and how do we see these show up in our lives?

- 3. Read Psalm 1:1-2, Psalm 31:19, and Romans 12:15-16. On the other side of the coin, we see that love does three things:
 - Spends time seeking and practicing the ruth
 - Talks about God and His goodness
 - Celebrates the success of others

What sticks out to you from these three, and how do we see these show up in our lives?







APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

- 1. Read Romans 12:9, Psalms 34:14, and 1 Thessalonians 5:15. What could "not rejoicing" in wrongdoing practically look like in your life?
- 2. Read 1 John 3:18-19 and John 8:31-32. How would your life change if you actively rejoiced in the truth?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear heavenly Father,

May we love one another selflessly, reflecting how You love us daily. Please help us not to rejoice in the ways our world often rejoices at the wrongdoing of others, but instead, may we rejoice in the truth. Thank you for the Bible and how we can know the truth and let it set us free. May we rest in the truth of your word and let it transform our lives to reflect you better. In Your holy and excellent name, we pray, amen.