



# GROUP LEADER TRAINING

JOHN 13:34 | **Love as Christ has loved us.**

## PEOPLE VS. PERFORMANCE

**Group leadership is shepherding. Planning, teaching, and administration matter, but they serve a greater priority: loving the people God has placed in our care and helping them become more like Jesus.**

### 1. CHRIST'S PEOPLE ARE THE PRIORITY

- Jesus consistently moved toward people in need, even when religious leaders cared more about appearances and rule-keeping.
- The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath. Jesus fed, healed, welcomed, forgave, and restored.
- For group leaders, the person in front of us is more important than appearing polished or executing a perfect plan.

### 2. CHRIST'S LOVE IS THE STANDARD

- "As I have loved you" points beyond friendliness to Christ's self-giving love, ultimately displayed at the cross.
- His love moves toward people who could not rescue themselves. It is not earned by attractiveness, usefulness, or performance.
- The more clearly we see the depth of Christ's love for us, the more freely that love flows toward others.

### PICTURES OF THIS LOVE

- Hosea pursuing an unfaithful wife
- The Samaritan stopping for the wounded man
- The father running to embrace the returning son
- A friend who loves at all times and sticks close, pray, and respond to needs.
- Faithful shepherding matters more than flawless performance.

### 3. CHRIST'S GLORY IS THE RESULT

- Our love for one another becomes a visible picture of Christ's love for us.
- We do not manufacture this love through shame or effort alone. We receive Christ's love, worship Him, and become vessels of that love to others.
- This love is patient, kind, humble, forgiving, burden-bearing, truthful, hopeful, and enduring.

### COMMON DISTRACTIONS

- Having an answer to every question
- Looking polished or impressive
- Making sure our opinion is heard
- Correcting every wrong immediately
- Leading the perfect Bible study

None of these is the command. The command is to love one another as Christ has loved us.

### FOR GROUP LEADERS

- Give your presence to people, not only your preparation to the meeting.
- Ask what would serve their true good and help them move toward Christ.
- Let love shape how you teach, listen, correct, forgive, pray, and respond to needs.
- Faithful shepherding matters more than flawless performance.