



The Four Loves

Small Group Discussion Questions The Second Love: Romantic Love

As you begin:

Spend a few minutes in small talk as you begin. Try using another ice breaker that you received in your Small Group Starter Kit. Have group members talk about how they experienced storge love (from week 1) either as the recipient of someone's kindness or an act of kindness that they extended toward another person.

VIDEO #2: Watch the video lesson now.

Discussion Questions: (Katie listed 5 points that Lewis makes in his book.)

Point 1: "Eros" is a Greek-Christian term, which means, "romantic love" or "passionate love."

1. Spend a few minutes describing EROS love. How do people feel when they are "in love?" Tell about a time when you were in love.

Point 2: The spiritual danger of romantic love is less about sexual immorality and more about losing sight of God.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 where Paul states that being married and being unmarried are both gifts from God. How could romantic love contribute to losing sight of God? Tell about a time in your life where romantic love caused you or someone you know to lose sight of God?

Point 3: A romantic love relationship makes us like a King or Queen, and we should rule over our partners like Jesus rules the church and the world.

1. Read Ephesians 5:21 & 33. In this classic passage about marital relationships, Paul begins by stating that there should be a mutual submission of one to another. What does that mean and how would that make a difference when trying to define the husband and wife roles in marriage?
2. Paul then goes on to assert (as does Lewis in *The Four Loves*) that cruci-

fixion is the supreme example of romantic love. The King gave his life for those he loves. Romantic love causes us to sacrifice ourselves for the sake of the one we love—not rule over. When have you tried to rule over? How did that go? When have you tried to love as Jesus loved? How did that go?

Point 4: Romantic Love is not aiming at Happiness.

1. When have you seen or experienced unhappiness because romantic love was present? When is this a good thing?
2. “It is in the grandeur of Eros that the seeds of danger are concealed.” (C.S. Lewis) What are these seeds of danger? Tell about a time when romantic love got you in trouble.

Point 5: Romantic Love is really like Love Himself.

1. Read Ephesians 3:16-19 Put these verses in your own words and read them to your group.
2. Since all loves can be a reflection of God himself, what does our experience of romantic love toward another person tell us about how God feels about us and loves us? When have you experienced God’s eros towards you?

As you end:

Take a few minutes to hear some prayer requests from your group members. You might direct the requests by asking, “Who do you know (in your family, at work, in the community) who needs more love in their life?” Let’s pray for them and even consider that we might be the one to bring love into that situation. Close in prayer.

For Next Week:

We will be looking at Friendship Love next week. If you can’t make the week-end services, you can watch live online or later in the week. Click on the WATCH tab on the Crossroads main page. Group members can also watch the small group videos if they miss a week of your group time. Who is bringing the snacks next week?

Send a group picture to 970.578.9836 and #mygroupcrossroadsco on social media (no matter what size your group is)!

And don’t forget the daily readings and journal questions—also available online at <http://crossroadscolorado.com/four-loves>.