



The Four Loves

Small Group Discussion Questions The Third Love: Friendship

As you begin:

Spend a few minutes in small talk. Try using another ice breaker question that you received in your Small Group Starter Kit. Here are two other starter questions:

- Name one way that you expressed love this past week.
- Name one way that you received love this past week.

VIDEO #3: Watch the video. (Prior to your meeting, download the video if your internet runs slowly.)

1. What is the difference between friends and acquaintances (what C.S. Lewis calls 'companions')?
2. In the video, Dennis said that one of the tests of good friends is that you would call them if you were diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. Besides your family, who would you call if it was you? If you're comfortable with this, share the name of one person from your list and describe the kind of friendship you have with this person.
3. Why do you think many people do not have close friends in their lives?
4. If you have good friends at Crossroads talk about how those friendships started and grew into what they are today.
5. What differences have good friends made in your life?
6. Dennis listed 3 ways to develop close friends (Be Loyal, Be Encouraging, Be Honest). How has one of these been expressed in one of your friendships and what has been the impact on your relationship? What are ways to develop close friendships? Here are the Bible verses Dennis used, you may want to have people read them for the group:

Proverbs 18:24, 15:23, 12:25, 27:6, Ephesians 4:15, John 15:15

7. (Optional) Dennis listed 2 cautions (Don't let romantic love interfere; Don't be friendship snobs). How could romantic love interfere with friendship? Do you agree or disagree that healthy men and women can have friends with any gender of person? Why or why not? How have you experienced friendship snobbery?
8. What kind of a friendship do you have with Jesus? How has He been a good friend to you?
9. Generally speaking, how happy are you with your friendships? If you could make one change in your friendships, what would it be? What is one thing you could do to develop closer friendships in the next month?

As you end:

Next week will be your last session of The Four Loves series. It would be a great time to plan a Small Group dinner (or lunch or breakfast). You could add 30 minutes to your planned group time to do this, or meet a 5th time the following week and enjoy a meal and talk about the impact of The Four Loves series.

If you are a new group, think about what happens after this series ends. We will start a new weekend series that will take us to Easter called Passages, based on several passages in the New Testament book of Matthew. Begin to consider meeting another 6 weeks (until Easter) to dive into this series. We will provide questions each week for your group to discuss on each passage.

If your group is new, you are just getting started so we hope and pray that you will want to continue your group growth up to Easter (& beyond).

We are having an Ash Wednesday service at Crossroads on Wednesday, March 6, 6:30 – 7:15 pm followed by a soup and salad dinner (bring one to share). This will be a great experience to share together as a group and launch your new 6-week small group experience.

Close with a time of prayer.

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>.