

Believing Like Jesus | Week #05

Love is an Orientation | October 14th and 17th

Anchor Verse: "...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith..." Hebrews 12:1-2

What's the Issue Anyway?

We live in a world of _____ - _____ acceptance.

We project our _____ of LOVE onto God.

This _____ produces pain and problems.

What wisdom does scripture offer us?

Jesus taught that God's love was _____. (Matthew 5:43-47)

Jesus taught that God's love _____ our choices perfectly.

(Luke 15:21-22)

Jesus taught God's love transforms _____ into great _____. (Luke 7:47)

Don't Miss This

Jesus believed God is _____ love and we are _____ by that love. (Matthew 5:48)

What about my everyday, peacemaking life?

How to be perfected in God's Love:

1. Develop an _____ of the beliefs and habits of performance-orientation. (Internal reference point: Ego)
2. Create a _____ with a Love-orientation. (Internal reference point: Christ's love connecting all things)

Essential Daily Practice: Silence, Meditation, Non-judgment, Time Spent in Nature

How can this make me a better human and our world a better place?

Your _____ comes alive: Happy, free, humble, powerful.

We _____ and _____ God's love to the world.

We _____ the power of sin (wounds and wounding).

What is God inviting you into today?

1. Learn to gently observe yourself in performance-orientation.
2. Commit to creating a New Life of Love-orientation.

Thought Provoking Questions for Groups or Personal Reflection

1. How do you tend to live in performance-orientation?
2. Who have been your models, mentors and mirrors of unconditional love?
3. When have you been the recipient of God's universal and understanding love? How did this experience change you?
4. Jesus taught that God's love transforms *shame* into *great love*. Why is this so important for our Crossroads Family of Peacemakers?
5. In what ways does Jesus' belief that "God's love is *universal*" bother you? Why? What of our cultural values are in tension with God's way of loving everyone?