

Reference: 1 Cor. 13: 1-6

INTRODUCTION

This week as we discuss what it means to love and how our relationships should look like as believers, we will be talking about the important art of celebration. We specifically will be talking about how we should strategically celebrate in our relationships.

ICE BREAKER

What are your family holiday traditions/celebrations?

QUESTIONS

- 1) Ed Stetzer stated "What you celebrate, you become." What do you think we should be celebrating in our relationships?
- 2.) Pastor John said that we must celebrate the freedom that forgiveness brings. Read 1 Cor. 13:5, Paul tells us that love keeps no record of wrongs. Do you find it difficult to forgive in this way, why?
- 3.) Pastor John talked about how we respond to getting hurt. He stated that we will either retain it, return it or release it. What response are you most likely to exhibit? What should our response be, and how we can we exhibit it more?
- 4.) We were also reminded to celebrate the peace that discernment brings. Pastor John talked about the important distinction between love and affirmation. Does loving someone mean that I fully support and affirm everything that they do? Why do you think our society believes this?
- 5.) One of the messages of the world is "Since I love this person, I'll affirm their choices, celebrate their lifestyle and not share the truth with them." God teaches something different, read Proverbs 27:6. How do these messages conflict with each other?
- 6.) Pastor John stated "Anybody who is celebrating and cheering you on while you sin does not love you! Love tells the truth and the truth is that Jesus is better than your sin." Do you struggle to share or receive truth in relationships? Are there any relationships in your life that you need to lovingly share the truth in?
- 7.) Pastor John reminded us to celebrate the intimacy that honesty brings. Read 1 Cor. 13:6, Paul teaches us that love rejoices with the truth. Why then do we struggle to tell the truth at times? What are the times that you find it difficult to be honest?
- 8.) God celebrates often, read Luke 15:10. Knowing that God celebrates often should lead us to also celebrate often in our relationships as well. With everything that we discussed today, what can you celebrate more in your relationships?