



## NOVEMBER 3

# THE GOSPEL OF GOD

## THE LAW OF LOVE



### GETTING STARTED

This weekend we celebrated baptisms and continued our series, *The Gospel of God*, by studying Romans 13:8-10. We learned the non-negotiable truth that loving others well is our core calling as followers of Jesus.

Before you begin the study, take a few moments to reflect on this verse:

*Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.*

**Romans 13:8**

Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to transform you by His love and teach you to love like Him as you work through this study.



### STUDY QUESTIONS

1. During the weekend services, we celebrated and cheered people on as they followed Jesus into the waters of baptism. Was there a particular testimony or baptism moment that inspired, encouraged, or challenged you in your journey with Jesus?
2. The first principle Michael shared was *There's One Rule . . . That Rules Them All*. As Christ-followers, we are called to live a life of love in every situation and every relationship.
  - a. How would you define the word "love"?
  - b. Read **Romans 13:8-10**. Paul gives us some practical examples of what love looks like as believers. How is love defined according to these verses?
3. Scripture is clear, if we want to be transformed to become more like Jesus, learning how to love well is a non-negotiable. Read the following passages: **Galatians 5:13-15**, **James 2:8**, **Ephesians 5:1-2**.
  - a. What are the common themes among these verses?
  - b. How do these Scriptures shape your view on the priority of loving well?

4. Love is seeking the best for others, even for our enemies. Read **Romans 12:14-21**. This sounds easy in theory but can be very difficult to live out when we have been deeply wounded.

- a. How do you find the strength to love others, even when it hurts?
- b. Is there something specific in your life that has helped you find success in loving your enemies? (E.g., certain Scriptures, a helpful perspective, prayer, worship)

5. This weekend, we learned that *Love . . . Has Limits*.

- a. Have you ever been the recipient of *tough love*? For example, maybe someone held you accountable or shared a biblical truth with you that you didn't want to hear. Do you see that now as a loving act? Why? How did you benefit from their tough love in the long run?
- b. In our culture today, we are often told that to love someone is to approve of whatever they want to do, regardless of whether it is right or wrong. Read **1 Corinthians 13:6**. How does this description of love differ from the way our culture often defines love?

6. Michael asked the key question this weekend, *Are You Living . . . The Law Of Love?*

- a. How would you answer that question, and why?
- b. What would it look like to live out a life of love in the following areas of your life?
  - In dating/marriage
  - In parenting
  - In ministry
  - In your Life Group
  - In your workplace
  - In this week's election
  - In your community