

CONNECT

If a movie was made of your life, then what genre would it be (adventure, sci-fi, rom-com, etc...), and what actor would you want to play you in the movie?

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

Luke 6: 27-28 (NLT)

"But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you."

GROW

Use any of the following prompts to help you facilitate group discussion:

- Thinking about real life or fiction, what are some powerful examples of love beyond the Bible?
- What are some common obstacles or reasons people give for not loving others?
- Read Luke 6:27-36 (NLT). What do you think these verses are saying in your own words? What do these verses say about God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit? What do these verses say about us, as people?
- Share your thoughts about this phrase: Bless is defined as asking God to look favorably upon.
- What is one way you can partner with Holy Spirit to include more "blessing love" in your life, so you can show others the love of Jesus?

WORSHIP

The Blessing
Bring Your Kingdom

MINISTRY TIME

Invite Holy Spirit and ask the group to reflect upon this question: Show me a time when I have cursed or judged someone instead of blessing and loving them? Allow time for Holy Spirit to minister before praying over the group: We give you permission, Holy Spirit into this situation. We receive your love and forgiveness for all the times we did not love others as you have loved. Help us from this day forward to choose to bless and love like You. It is in Your Name, we pray, Jesus, amen. Ask if anyone wants to share what they heard or experienced. Be ready to celebrate what God does!

GO

Here are some ideas on how you can change the world with Jesus this week:

- Read the parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15. Invest the time to take note of which son you identify with the most, knowing that the father loved them both equally. Read the passage more than once and while reading thank Father God for how He loves you. Then pray about how you can show this same, lavish, forgiving, arms-open kind of love to members of your family in the days, weeks, and months to come.
- Make a list of the people or organizations you are struggling to love and bless. Ask Holy Spirit to soften your heart to see them as Jesus sees them. Pray each day for who or what makes the list. Not sure what to pray? Start with these: *"Lord put favor on my enemies... Lord put Your favor upon those struggling with addiction. Put favor upon those who attack You even though they do not believe in You"*.



BLESSING NOT CURSING
BY: LEAH WENGER

LIFELINE

LIFELINE