

# NEW TO AWAKEN?

You are invited to attend our next

## MEET & GREET



RSVP



If you are new to Awaken scan the code and RSVP to be at our next Meet and Greet on Feb 5

# MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

BEGINS JANUARY 24



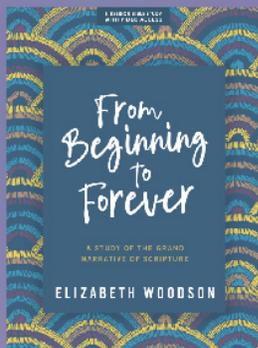
TUESDAYS | 7PM

\$25

REGISTER TODAY:



Our Men's and Women's Bible Studies are gearing up on January 24! Sign up today! Scan the QR codes on the graphic



REGISTER TODAY!

## WOMEN'S WINTER BIBLE STUDY

BEGINS JANUARY 24

TUESDAYS 9AM & 7PM

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

\$25



AWAKENLV.ORG/WBS

# ENCOUNTER JESUS

Week 22 | THE POWER OF LOVE | John 13:31-35

## YOU DON'T LOVE OTHERS JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN TOLD TO YOU LOVE OTHERS BECAUSE CHRIST HAS LOVED YOU

Stories are written to make you feel like you are a part of them. A good story writer like Tolkien, Hugo, or Tolstoy is able to draw you in using diverse characters you identify with and engaging storylines that tug on your emotions to the point where you feel like you are in the script. It's true that the greatest stories have had the powerful capacity to capture the attention of millions of people. I say that to say this: If you are a Christian, you are in the most epic story of all time. Truly the greatest story ever written. Not written by Tolkien, Hugo, or Tolstoy. Not produced and directed by Cameron, Lucas, or Spielberg, but by God. His story is an action, adventure, comedy, and drama. But above all, it's a love story. I don't mean a chick flick. I mean a love story between the persons of the Trinity that has broken out into humanity and that God invites you into personally. Love has always been the story. And it's safe to say that love is the key that reveals that you belong to God and that we, His people, belong to Him.

**Leaders:** Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



### PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, take time to reflect and pray over this weekend's message. Rejoice in how deep the Father's love for you truly is. And pray that He enlarges your heart with love for your brothers and sisters in Christ.



### REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Derek spent time unpacking the love shared among the persons in the Trinity. **When we think about loving relationships in the church, why is it important to consider that love is shared in the Trinity?**

**I DO NOT ASK FOR THESE ONLY, BUT ALSO FOR THOSE WHO WILL BELIEVE IN ME THROUGH THEIR WORD, THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE, JUST AS YOU, FATHER, ARE IN ME, AND I IN YOU, THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE IN US, SO THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE SENT ME. THE GLORY THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN ME I HAVE GIVEN TO THEM, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE EVEN AS WE ARE ONE, I IN THEM AND YOU IN ME, THAT THEY MAY BECOME PERFECTLY ONE, SO THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW THAT YOU SENT ME AND LOVED THEM EVEN AS YOU LOVED ME.**

**JOHN 17:20-23**

2. **Do you agree that the Scriptures indicate that love is the chief characteristic of God's Kingdom and its citizens? Why is that important? What practical things does this mean about how we treat one another as Christians? How does love reveal that the kingdom of God has come upon us?**

# ENCOUNTER JESUS

THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND; REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL.  
MARK 1:15

3. Based on what Jesus said in John 13:31-35, why would the love we show to one another arrest the attention of the non-Christian? Do you think that is happening in today's church? Explain your answer. What can you practically do to make love more of a reality?

**LOVE: THE UNCONDITIONAL SELF-GIVINGNESS OF GOD THAT SPRINGS NATURALLY FROM HIS BEING AND IS ETERNALLY DISPLAYED WITHIN THE TRINITY AND TO ALL HIS CREATION THROUGH CHRIST AND AMONG HIS PEOPLE.**

4. According to 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, there are things that love doesn't do. And there are things that love does do. **Make two lists based on those verses and do a hard self-evaluation. What needs to change? How do you plan to change? I want to encourage you that God will help us if we ask Him.**



## WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

### 1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

**DEEPER DIVE:** Read and study 1 John focusing primarily on the subject of love. Consider John's view of God's love and the strong expectation that those who say they know God should love their Christian brothers and sisters.



## REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, choose love in every circumstance and situation. Use 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 as a guide.