



Session 10 God's Love

INSTRUCTOR



STEPHEN BECK PhD. Stephen is a career church planter and church planting instructor. He has served with the Redeemer Church Planting network in Canada, more recently with Greater Europe Mission in Germany. He is considered one of the "cutting edge" Greater Europe Missionaries in this regard. He is a Professor of Practical Theology at Freie Theologische Hochschule in Giessen, Germany. He has also been guest lecturer at several institutions on the European continent. He is married to Susan, and they have four children. In 2011 Stephen and Susan embarked on yet another journey: together with 25 college students they planted a multi-everything church for the Frankfurt metro region. Through the refugee wave that came over Germany, this church multiplied to 15 congregations in 6 years.

Goals

This 14-session course will focus at the Definition of “Christian Spirituality”; a gospel-driven Spirituality; Christ – the goal of our spirituality; the role of the Holy Spirit in our spiritual formation; 4 aspects of God the Father that are cornerstones in spiritual formation: sovereignty, holiness, love, pleasures of God.

Sessions Overview

1. Foundations
2. Christ as the Foundation
3. The Holy Spirit-Introduction
4. The Holy Spirit and New Birth
5. The Holy Spirit and Control of Body
6. The Holy Spirit and Impressions
7. The Holy Spirit and Help
8. God's Sovereignty
9. God' Holiness
- 10. God's Love**
11. Character Development
12. God's Pleasures
13. Gospel Driven-Part 1
14. Gospel Driven-Part 2

Session Summary

Christian spiritual formation requires self-examination and God-examination. In this session, Dr. Beck explores what it means to love God, and helps us examine whether we are truly loving God, or just the things that God gives us.

Fill in the Blanks

1. Matthew 22:37-39 states that the entire law hangs on loving God and loving your neighbor as yourself. What does this look like on daily life? How can we deepen our love for God and for our neighbors?

2. C.S Lewis said that our love is a reciprocal thing. We can love because God first loved us. When was the first time you felt God's love? How did that impact your relationship with others around you?

3. Sometimes it is hard to grasp, in our cultures where we have to earn everything, that God loves us and there is nothing we can do to make him love us more. How do you feel when you hear that God loves you? Do you believe it, or is it hard to fully accept?

4. How can we love God in a right way? Share an example of how you love God in this way.

5. How can we love God in a false way? List the three points Dr. Beck mentions. Have you experienced any of these?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

6. Explain Matthew [13:20-21](#) in your own words. Jesus makes it clear that there is a cost to following him. Are you willing to, whatever the cost, follow Jesus?

7. We can love all of the Christian things, but not love God. What do you think about this? Have you seen this before?

8. What are the six ways to truthfully love God, according to Matthew 22:37-39?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Dynamic Christian Spirituality 01

Spiritual Life & Formation

5. _____

6. _____

9. What does it really mean to love your neighbor as yourself? Who is your neighbor?
