



SMALL GROUPS

Developing deep rooted relationships with God and each other



Bold Faith Groups

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Scott & Jan Carpenter
587 Scott Drive, Coldwater
Contact: [Melissa Houtz](#)
517-617-5797

Sunday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Bob and Bridget Mayer
824 Gilead Lake Road
Contact: [Dave Minard](#)
517-756-8000

Thursday 1:00 p.m.

Host: Sara Jane Fair
1005 S. Snow Prairie Road, Bronson
Contact: [Jim Erwin](#)
517-756-8001

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Tijuana Missions
Hosts: Solano and Jennie deAraujo
974 Dewsenberry Road, Bronson
Contact: [Frank Cabrera](#)
517-369-9783

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: The Evans
655 West Chicago Street, Bronson
Contact: [Mary Jo Evans](#)
369-4506

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Bill and Linda Penn
247 West Nettleman Road, Bronson
Contact: [Brandon Carpenter](#)
989-277-5988
(kid-friendly)



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Bold Faith

Group Discussion Guide -- week 3

We are halfway through our Bold Faith month. What's happening? How has the theme, "Love Your Neighbor" challenged you? Anyone making headway in meeting neighbors? Have you been filling out the block map and praying for your neighborhood?

Open your group with prayer. Ask God to soften your hearts toward the needs of the people who live in your neighborhood.

- I. Last week we talked about choosing to prioritize what God prioritizes -- relationships. And specifically, friendships with our non-Christian neighbors. Love, as God designed it, is service oriented. It is often expressed by helping someone in need. Why? Because we sincerely care about them. Read [John 13:34-35](#). We've seen "the great" commandment. This is Jesus' "new" commandment. Is there a difference between loving "one another" and loving "neighbors"? What about loving "as you love yourself", verses loving "as I have loved you"? Explain your answers.
- II. We'll need to look at the context of "The New Commandment" to better understand what Jesus is referring to. Read [John 13:1-5](#). What do we know about foot washing in that culture? Do we have any equivalents today? What can we surmise about power and using power (verse 3) as Jesus models it? How does this reflect [Matthew 20:20-28](#)?
- III. Now read [John 13:6-11](#). What's going on with Peter here? Why was it hard for Peter to be served by Jesus? Do you ever "feel funny" when someone tries to serve you? Is pride possibly a problem for us at times like this? What's the remedy?
- IV. Finally, read [John 13:12-17](#). Jesus models greatness by serving. Then he commands us to love one another like he did -- by serving the needs of others. And verse 17 states that we will be blessed when we do. What kind of blessings could we expect?

Turn your discussion to neighborhoods and neighbors. What might be some "common" dirty feet" scenarios with our neighbors where we can actively serve them? Any examples? Is it possible our neighbors might wash our feet too from time to time? Explain. It's easier to talk about this kind of love than to actually do it. What can we as a church do to actively involve our membership in neighborhood service projects? Any ideas? According to [John 13:35](#), what kind of impact could this have on non-Christians?

Close your group by praying for just that. Ask God to inspire us to action -- real service of others out of love for them through Christ. Be alert to any "dirty feet" you might encounter in the coming days.....God is answering your prayers!

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