RE:SOLUTION PART 3: FAITH IN ACTION

Introduction: This is the season of self-improvement. We challenge ourselves to get slimmer, stronger, and smarter. But if you want to become a better person, focus less on yourself and more on doing something to make the world a better place. The challenge is that making the world a better place requires giving up some part of our lives—time, money, or opportunities. It will cost you some life. We don't want to give up some life. We want to preserve our lives. But Jesus said that the only way to live a life of purpose and meaning is to give our lives away.

RESOLUTION

ICE BREAKERS

- ☐ What are some spiritual disciplines that you have felt are essential for being a Christian?
- ☐ Talk about someone you've known or seen that seemed to live with purpose and passion. What are some of the qualities that made that person unique?

EXPLORE

Paul's "love chapter" in 1 Corinthians is well known for being used at weddings and in memory verse memorization. Prior to this, Paul has just finished describing some of the gifts and strengths God gives us to use in helping others. Then, right before he begins describing what love looks like, he uses three verses to emphasize the importance of his topic. Let's take a look.

- ☐ Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
 - What aspects of faith do you tend to emphasize over love—knowledge, generosity, prayer, emotional connection to God, or something else? What draws you to those aspects of faith?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ☐ Have you seen (or maybe been part of) a culture of Christians that knew a lot about their faith but didn't love others well? What were some of the results?
- ☐ In what ways is a faith that is expressed and authenticated by love challenging to you? In what ways do you find that concept comforting?
- ☐ Think about what breaks your heart. In what ways might addressing that problem require you to step outside of your comfort zone? What can this group do to help you take a step?
- ☐ What is one thing you can do this week to put your faith into action? How can this group help?
- ☐ If you are still struggling with discovering what breaks your heart, what are some things you might be able to do to come to a decision? What's holding you back from making that decision? How can this group help?
- ☐ Spend some time looking through the rest of 1 Corinthians 13. What are some of the ways love is describe that stand out to you? How could you go about showing this kind of love to others?

PRAYER & PRACTICE

To make the world a better place, you don't have to quit your job, but you may have to quit something. You don't have to leave the country, but you may have to leave your comfort zone. You don't have to give all your money away, but you may have to give some of it away. That's because your devotion to God is authenticated by love for others and loving others always costs us something. Pray for clarity and courage for one another and you consider putting your faith into action!