

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Matthew 25:31-46

The prevailing theme of the Bible, and in particular the story of Jesus' life, is that love wins. The world is full of brokenness and darkness, but love can change *everything*. It can mend the broken and bring light into the darkest of places. But, we have to let it. We have to let it into our lives, and once we do, we have to let it shine through us into the world. We must surrender our own will, allowing God's will to be our focus. God is the Beginning and the End. When he returns, love will win over ALL, but we don't have to wait until then. We can let love win now!

Pray

Lord, we know that love is the most powerful tool you've given us for your kingdom. We know that you came to Earth in love, showing us what ultimate love looked like, and then commanding us to do the same for the world. We also know that loving doesn't always come easy to us. Lord, fill our hearts with overwhelming love for the brokenness all around us. Don't let it be a selective love, but help us show your love to everyone we come in contact with no matter who they are, no matter how we feel, and no matter what it might cost us.

Getting Started

- What was the nicest thing that someone did for you in the past week or two?
- Thinking about your previous answer, have you met anyone recently who you think needs that same kind of compassion shown to them?

Digging Deeper

- Was there ever a time when you felt truly heartbroken over the condition of your life? Did you change after this experience? How are you different now than you were then?
- Read Matthew 25:31-46. Discuss the difference between the sheep and the goats. Share some examples of what sheep and goats look like today, in our time.
- It's time to get real; is your life more like a goat or like the sheep? Share an example of a need you saw but ignored in the last few weeks; how would you do it differently after this week's Message?
- What do you think a fully given life - one where love always wins - would look like for you personally? What do you need to chance to live this kind of life?
- Why do you think it's so hard for us to live a completely love wins-kind of life?
- Who do you know that you need to show love to this week? What can you do to show it? How can the group show their commitment to love wins over the next week or two?

Living Jesus

Today, right now, are you a Christian just checking the religious 'boxes' each week, or do you truly live a given life of love? Jesus said in John 14:12, "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing." There's no real way to read this where we don't have to live a love-focused life, because that's exactly what Jesus did. If we really believe in him, then we *will* let love win. A passionate love for Jesus translates into a beautiful love for people in need!

Your Story

How do you plan on letting love win in your life in the coming days? Make a commitment to show love in a specific way this week and then be prepared to tell the group next week what happened!

Share your personal story with us [here](#) or go to MySevernRun.com and choose [Share Your Story under the Forms tab](#).