



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Chapter 14

The Character Test

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

~ John 13:34-35

DISCUSSION POINTS

Golden Rule = Treat others the way you want to be treated.

Platinum Rule = Love one another as I (Jesus) have loved you.

- If we're going to win in life, we have to win in our relationships.
- Jesus viewed people and relationships as a stewardship before God. He saw His own life this way, and He expects the same from us.
- Mature people generously serve others out of their love and connection to God.
- The culture of God's family is built on trust, forgiveness, honor, and love.

Continued on back

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is Jesus' standard for our relationships? What's the difference between the Golden Rule and the Platinum Rule?
2. What is the Character Test? Where do we find the motivation to live this way? What is the most basic test of our spiritual maturity?
3. What does Romans 12:18 say? How does this impact what it looks like to love people?

LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

- Healthy relationships require investment. Pray and ask God to show you three people to whom you can send an encouraging text.
- Ask yourself if you're holding onto an offense or have chosen not to forgive someone in your life (especially close friends/family). Choose to forgive them. Let it go. This doesn't mean you reconcile with them, but it does mean you stop viewing them through the difficult experience.

PRAYER REQUESTS AND CLOSE IN PRAYER