

Getting Started

Tell the story of a long-term relationship. How did it start? Was there a time when it faded? Were you able to get it back? What’s the state of that relationship these days? How has it changed?

Into the Bible

Read Acts 2:41-47. Spend some time describing the earliest Christians’ life together.

Have you ever experienced a church like that? Which parts?

Did that idyllic time last? What happened?

Read Revelation 2:1-7. For what did the Lord commend them?

If that’s their commendation, what must their first love have looked like?! I mean, wouldn’t you love to be part of a church that matched that description?

How do you regain a first love when it’s cooled off?

How might you reignite a faith that has cooled off, become *ordinary*?

Finally, read Matthew 25:14-30. What was the master’s expectations of his servants?

How hard do you have to work to make an investment double in size?

I said in my sermon that a lesson from the parable is, “Invest what the Lord has given you.” So, what has the Lord given you? Are you using it for His purposes? How?

Do you see your neighbors, your coworkers, your family as a gift from God to be built into? Why or why not? Why is it so hard to share the faith with those closest to you?

Digging Deeper

If there were an entire congregation, crazy in love with the Lord and putting all sorts of energy into his work, what would that congregation look like?

Why do you suppose so many contemporary churchgoers are *not* willing to invest like that?