

Getting Started

Welcome back! If you haven't already, spend a little time catching up. If you have new members, to make them welcome. Ask them about themselves and tell a little about yourself.

What are some things that you really love—the kinds of things of which you would really feel the loss if they were suddenly taken from you?

Into the Bible

According to Luke 10:27, how are we supposed to love the Lord?

That's an easy answer, but what do you suppose that looks like day to day?

Read Luke 14:25-33. What do you make of Jesus' choice of words, especially *hate*? What do you think He is trying to get across?

Under what circumstances might your family interfere with your faith?

Hating your life sounds like a call to martyrdom. What would you do if your faith had such a high price? What is the worst you have ever experienced because of your faith?

Given that Jesus was being followed by large crowds, doesn't His strategy seem to counterproductive? That is, wouldn't people be scared off by His saying? Why do you suppose He approached the crowds this way?

Read Romans 12:2. When is the gift of a new mind given?

If the renewed mind is a gift, why do we struggle so to be transformed in our thinking?

How can a transformed mind love the things we named in *Getting Started* and still love the Lord completely?

Digging Deeper

What would it take to order your loves rightly? How do you defeat the idolatry that lurks in the human heart so that you can properly enjoy God's gifts without letting them usurp His place in your heart?