

Session 4 – Guide

EDIFY: Shape Your Life for Good

How to Love What God Loves and Hate What God Hates



This guide provides the key questions, protocols, quotes and further study recommendations to help deepen your understanding and application of the session's content.

Setting the Stage

Introduction

In our EDIFY series, we've explored the transformative power of the gospel to shape our identity, improve our relationships and experience growth in our personal lives. Session 4, titled "How to Love What God Loves and Hate What God Hates," invites you into a conversation around what the bible says regarding the nature of our loves, desires and motivations, how sin has misguided them, and how the gospel restores us back into alignment with the heart of God.

We will explore four key questions: What does it look like to love what God loves and hate what God hates? Why is it impossible to do this on our own? What makes it possible? And what practical steps can we take to live this out daily? Through scripture, personal stories, and shared wisdom, we'll uncover vital keys to understanding God's will for our inner lives, how and why we get stuck, and what has made freedom possible, not just in the future, but in the here and now. .

*Our goal for this session, as with our entire Edify series, is that you will be reminded, first and foremost, of the finished work of Christ in dealing with the penalty and power of sin on your behalf. We believe that we don't work toward the gospel, but **from** the gospel. With this understanding ever before us, we are free to grow in His grace and in our character, through the application of biblical principles, the formation of new habits of mind and action, and by engaging in a community of like minded people who inspire and challenge us to become all that we can be in Christ.*

Let's Grow!

Key Questions

1. What does it look like to love what God loves and hate what God hates?

Consider the example of Jesus, who perfectly embodied God's values and passions.

2. Why is it impossible to love what God loves and hate what God hates?

Reflect on our fallen nature and the constant struggle between our desires and God's will.

3. What makes it possible to love what God loves and hate what God hates?

Recognize the transformative power of the Holy Spirit and the importance of being filled with God's love.

4. What practical steps can I take to allow God to properly direct my love?

Explore ways to immerse ourselves in God's Word, develop a Biblical worldview, and replace lies with truth

Practical Protocols

New: Embrace Your New Identity in Christ

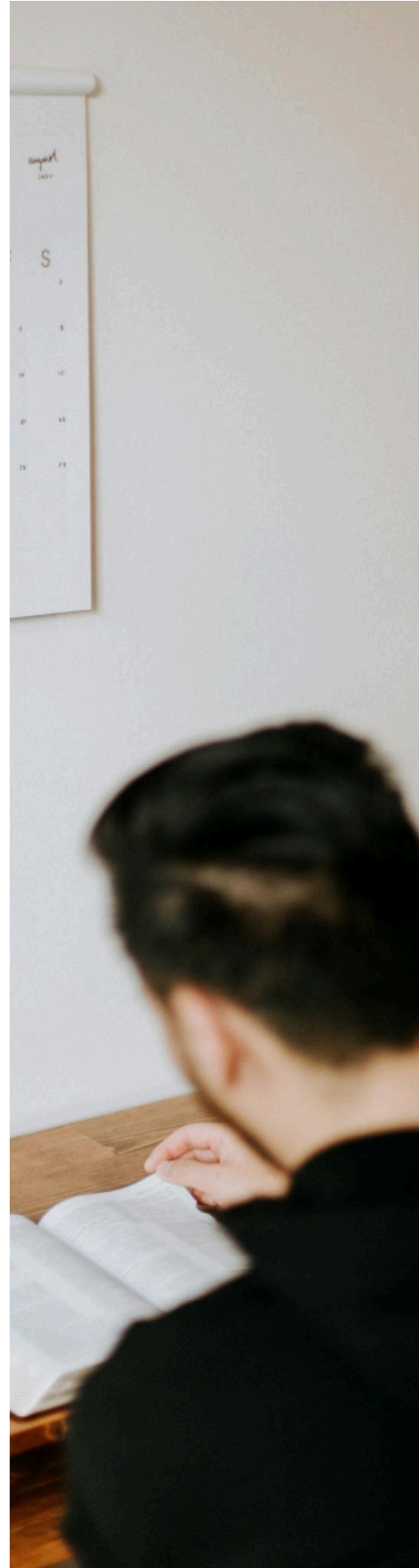
- *Romans 6:11: "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."*
- *Embrace the truth that you are a new creation in Christ. Continuously remind yourself of your new identity and live from this reality.*

View: Adopt a Biblical Worldview

- *2 Corinthians 10:3-5: "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ."*
- *Saturate your mind with scripture and let it shape how you see the world. Engage deeply with the Bible to align your thoughts and actions with God's perspective.*

True: Feed on the Truth of God's Word

- *John 6:35: "Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'"*
- *Jeremiah 15:16: "Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts."*
- *Continuously feed on God's Word, replacing lies with His truth. Let the scriptures renew your mind and transform your heart.*



Key Quotes for Reflection

"No man knows how bad he is till he has tried very hard to be good." C.S. Lewis

"You are not able, of yourself, to bring your purposes and desires and inclinations into submission to the will of God; but if you are willing to be made willing, God will accomplish the work for you." - Steps to Christ, p. 47.

"To truly become a Christian is to pass a point of no return. When you try to be 'just a little bit' Christian, it is harder than being not a Christian at all. But when you finally drop your conditions and insistence on being in control, the real fun begins." Timothy Keller:

"No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of self. But no man can empty himself of self. We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Your property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for You. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Your love can flow through my soul." COL 159.3

Reflect and Respond

- **Personal Reflection:** Which of the key questions resonates most with you? How can you apply the answers to your daily life?
- **Identify Lies:** What lies have you believed that need to be replaced with God's truth? Write them down and find scriptures that speak the truth over those lies.
- **Commit to Growth:** Choose one practical step to focus on this week. How will you embrace your new identity, adopt a Biblical worldview, or feed on the truth of God's Word?

Further Study

[Echoes of Eve](#) - sermon by David Asscherck

[The War Within](#) - article by Ty Gibson