

NE MN Synod Discipleship Challenge:
Love Like Jesus!
February 2014 Focus: WORSHIP

The NE MN Synod faith practice focus for February is “*Worship.*” Below is a discussion guide that can be used in conjunction with the video teaser and Bishop Aitken’s video challenge for “*Worship,*” which can be found on the Discipleship Challenge website at www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship. The teaser and challenge videos are meant as conversation starters...the real learning and growth takes place in your discussions that follow the videos!

You are encouraged to use these questions in your homes, during coffee hour, at ministry meetings, in youth group - wherever you have the opportunity to dwell on and discuss what it means for us as individuals and as a family of faith to **Love like Jesus!** The questions are arranged in a way that allows you to move deeper into the conversation as you feel comfortable. They need not be done all at once and there is no right or wrong answers. You have all month (and beyond!) to dwell on these questions. The point is to make room for some thoughtful and deliberate discussion.

And remember, our spiritual hunger to grow and deepen our faith has nothing to do with success, getting the “right” answer, or works. It’s all about living – fully living – into the grace of God as God’s children... as disciples, following Jesus in our daily life!

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel and for your willingness to grow in your discipleship to Christ our Lord!

For more information and resources on the Discipleship Challenge:

www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship

Love Like Jesus: WORSHIP!

February 2014

Something to think about:

So, according to Hallmark, among others, February is the month to celebrate *LOVE*.

- **Open your calendar/datebook for the month. Make a mental note of how often you see the following recorded:**

Work

Meetings related to work

Kid/grandkid concerts and games

Kid/grandkid practices

Community events/meetings

For most people, the events we keep track of in our calendars/datebooks are the things that are important... things we better not forget. But when looking at the above, answer this:

- **How many of those important things that you keep track of are things, people, or events that you love?**
- **What are those things you love that are not mentioned at all in your record of "important stuff." Why do you think that is? Maybe because they are so important you would never forget to recognize them, or is it because they are things that sometimes get taken for granted. Ouch. Make a new list of those things you love to make yourself feel better! 😊**

One of the reasons for God establishing the Sabbath (Genesis 2:1-3) was to rest and reflect on his great creation, his great love.

- **What do you love about God?**
- **How is worship a reflection of that love?**
- **When do you take the time to stop and reflect on your relationship with God?**

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." Hebrews 10:24-25

- **Why do you think it's important to worship together with others? What do you get by gathering together with others in worship? What do others get by having you there with them?**
- **Worship has been described as a gift of love to us from God. In what ways is worship a gift to you?**
- **What messages does taking the time to worship regularly send to the people and community around us?**