

LEAD WITH LOVE IOU

SERIES BIG IDEA:

What does love require of me?

*⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It does not dishonor others, **it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.***

1 Corinthians 13:4-5 (NIV)

Being angry isn't a sin.

"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷and do not give the devil a foothold.

Ephesians 4:26-27 (NIV)

Being selfish is the sin.

For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

James 3:16 (NIV)

We get angry when we don't get what we want.

AN ANGRY PERSON SAYS:

- "I'm the victim."
- "I'm more important."
- "You owe me."

To keep a long fuse on my anger, I must be quick to forgive.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

Love requires me to cancel the "IOU" I am due.

³³When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." ³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸There was a written

notice above him, which read: this is the king of the jews. ³⁹One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:33-43 (NIV)

Jesus took a punishment He didn't deserve so He could give us forgiveness we don't deserve.

1. Identify who owes me.
2. Decide what they owe me.
3. Cancel the "IOU"

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