

# Study Guide

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one! For message manuscripts and videos go to [spwired.com](http://spwired.com).*

Monday—**Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9** in the Old Testament and **Matthew 22:34-40** in the New Testament. Jesus says that everything hangs on loving God and loving others. Yet love can become an idol. How can love become an idol? What happens when it does?

Tuesday—**Read Judges 14:1-3 and 16:1-4** in the Old Testament. What was Samson's idol in these passages? Why do you think he was so obsessed with falling in love? Samson was blinded to the reality of his situation when he fell in love like this. Why are people so blinded when they fall in love?

Wednesday—**Read 1 Samuel 2:12-29** in the Old Testament. Eli's sons committed many sins. Why do you think they felt such freedom to act the way they did? Why didn't Eli do something about the sins his sons were committing? How is it possible for someone to be a servant of the Lord as Eli was and yet ignore the sins of his or her children? If you have kids, how might you have elevated them to the position of being an idol? How do we love our kids unconditionally, yet love God first and foremost? Why do we find this so difficult?

Thursday—**Read Genesis 39** in the Old Testament. In what ways did Potiphar's wife turn love into an idol? What are some things that might have led her to pursue a man other than her husband the way she did? What danger signs do you need to watch for so that you can keep yourself from getting entangled in sinful sexual situations? Do you agree that love is a choice and not simply a feeling? Why or why not?

Friday—**Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7** in the New Testament. In light of how love can become an idol, what do these words on love mean? How do we build life on a foundation of love, yet not make it an idol? Remember that loving God first and foremost doesn't mean that we love our kids, or spouses less. By loving God first and foremost we are equipped to love others fully. What does this mean for you in your life right now? How might you live out loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength? What is the alternative? What is the result?

## Prayer Concerns

### Health & Healing

Pam Clifton, Randy Baker, Della Martin, Susan Lawrence, Estil Lawless, Kara Hulseley, Nancy Oxford

### Cancer Treatment

Easton Murdock, Joey Walker, Jim Gant, Dottie Maloney, Rob Phillips, Shirley Braden, Carl Montgomery, John Vaughn

### Other Concerns

Brian & Tina Harter, The Schoech Family