



Group Discussion Questions

FAQ Series - Why is love so important to God? September 21 & 24, 2017

How did your mom and dad express love to you when you were growing up?

Read aloud: 1 John 4:7-5:3 (count the number of times John uses the word "love" and the phrase "love one another.")

Make a list of reasons why John might use the word "love" and the phrase "love one another" so many, many times!

Read Exodus 20:1-17 and identify each of the 10 commandments. How do you think about those commandments? Do you attempt to keep them? Do you ever fail? Do you ever have a sense of guilt about failing to keep them? Read Matthew 5:21-22 and discuss how Jesus deepens and personalizes the commandment, "Thou shalt not murder."

According to Jesus (John 13:34-35) there is the 11th commandment that He added. If we take the 11th commandment as seriously as we took the previous 10 commandments how should that impact us? Jesus, instead of stating, "Thou shalt not hate." states, "Love one another." What difference does it make that He made it a positive rather than negative statement?

If "abide in Christ," means engaging in practices that encourage growth in Christ, what practices could you add to your daily habits from which you could grow. If agape love is a verb and action word and means, "behaving for the benefit of others," what service project could your small group do this Fall to show love to someone?

Without using names, who in the past have you seen as fainthearted that you've encouraged as Paul instructs in I Thessalonians 5:14?

How do you feel about Paul's statement in II Thessalonians 3:10, "if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either?" How did the concepts of, "When helping hurts," affect your thinking?

Family Time: This week every time you hand or give something to one of your children say, "I love you," and see what happens!!!