

A Light in the Dark

A Study in 1 John



1 John 3:11-18

Getting Started

What is your favorite love song? What memory does it bring to mind?

Discussion

Was there anything that stood out to you from the sermon that you would like to discuss further?

According to this passage, what is an essential mark of a true Christian? Can you think of any others from Scripture?

Read Genesis 4:1-16 (the story of Cain and Abel). Why does John use this story to illustrate his point? What thoughts or feelings do God's responses to Cain evoke in you?

What motivates us toward NOT loving our brothers and sisters? How would you counsel another Christian dealing with bitterness or jealousy?

What does it look like biblically to "lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters in Christ"? How about in "actions and truth"?

As you go

Often we are blind to our self-centeredness or pride. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you notice thought patterns and/or actions this week that are fueled by "you thinking about you" rather than "you think about your brothers and sisters". Think about journaling or talking with a trusted friend about these things.

Prayer

Who has a need they would like the Group to pray for? How about a story from this past week of victory and praise?

Have someone (or multiple people) read John's account of Jesus' crucifixion out loud from John 19. Spend a couple minutes afterwards silently pondering Jesus laying his life down for us. Then share with Jesus in prayer anything that comes to mind.

