

## That Love

### Love from our Advocator

#### 1 John 2:1-6

# TALK IT OVER

### Study Description

Many people like the idea of love, but the word can mean many things to many people. True love is more than a sentimental feeling. It's a love that discerns, it's a love that does not practice sin, and it's a love that will be rejected by the world but will overcome the world. Ultimately, it flows from "That Love" that comes to us from Jesus (1 John 4:10), and hopefully leads us to say, "I want to embody 'that love.'" We'll be looking at John's letters to see what true love looks like and how we can show the world that love.

### Passages

*"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." – 1 John 2:1-6 (ESV)*

### Start Talking: Process together as a group. (15 Min)

- What's one thing from last weekend's sermon that you hope we talk about as a group?

### Head: Start Thinking about the Text. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- When you read 1 John 2:1-6, what does it say to you? What is your takeaway?
- What is an advocate? Why do we need an advocate?
- Look up the word, "propitiation." What does it mean that Jesus is our propitiation for our sins?

### Heart: Start Sharing how the Text is shaping our beliefs. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- When was the last time someone advocated for you? Did you feel like you deserved it?
- What does it mean to be an advocate for someone? Who can you be an advocate for?
- How does this kind of love motivate you to obey God's love?

### Hands: Start living the Text. Commit to believing or obeying the text this week. (10 Min)

- Think of an organization/ministry that you can be an advocate for this week. What would it look like if your group committed to serving someone in this way this week?
- John invites us "to walk in the same way in which he walked." What does that look like to us as a group this week according to this passage?

### Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

*For Trios questions see the back of this page*

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**Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. Pick a question. (15 Min)**

1. Who is one non-believer or someone without a church home that you need to reach out to this week?
2. What kind of conversations are you having with people you are reaching out to?
3. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
4. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
5. What's something you would like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.