

That Love Love that does not Love the World 1 John 2:15-17

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

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." – 1 John 2:15-17 (ESV)

Process last week as a group. (15 Min)

- Was there any one thing that you most agreed with or disagreed with from last weekend's message? What was it and why?

Head: Think about the text and discuss. (10 Min)

- Read 1 John 2:15-17; How does John compare the way the world loves with the love of the Father?
- What are examples of the desires of the flesh and the eyes? Why are they not from the Father?
- John makes a distinction between the love of the Father versus the desires of the flesh. What do you think are the differences? Do you think love and desire are similar in any way?

Heart: Share how the text influences our beliefs. (10 Min)

- What are some of the worldly things that you might "love?" Do you think it is love or desire?
- How do those desires of the world keep you from loving God?

Hands: Live out the text. (10 Min)

- What does it look like to live out the will of God?
- How can we covenant together to keep us from the desires of the world? How do we as a church community hold each other accountable?
- The average American touches their phone 2,617 times a day. Take time this week to set aside your phone for a few hours and seek the will of God.
- What are some other ways you can seek God first rather than distractions?

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'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.