

That Love Love that Testifies to Jesus 1 John 5:6-12

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, 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

"This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." – 1 John 5:6-12 (ESV)

Process this week as a group. (15 Min)

- What are some highs and lows of the week?
- 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 5:6-12. How does the water, blood, and the Spirit testify to Jesus? In what ways have we seen these three (water, blood, and spirit) used throughout the Bible?
- How do these three (water, blood, and spirit) connect with how we practice our faith today?
- Read John 15:26-27. What is the job of the Holy Spirit?

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

- How has Baptism or Holy communion ministered to your faith in Jesus personally?
- Do you believe that the three are all connected? Water, Blood, and Spirit?
- Water and blood are sources of life. Do you think this passage is meant to be taken literally or metaphorically? Discuss this as a group.

Hands: Live out the text. (10 Min)

- Have you been Baptized yet? If not, will you consider it?
- If you have been Baptized what comfort has it given you knowing that you have received this gift from God?
- Is there someone you know that believes Jesus is Lord but has not been baptized? Consider having a conversation with them about the benefits of being baptized.

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 next page

That Love
Love that Testifies to Jesus
1 John 5:6-12



TALK IT OVER

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.