

Group Discussion Guide

Week of November 14, 2021

1 John 3:10-24 – The Evidence

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Share a time you felt like you were treated exceptionally well by another person. (It could be at a place of business, hospital stay, a friend, etc.)

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

Love is the evidence that we belong to God.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Read – 1 John 3:10-24

- In verse 10 what does John point out to be the 2 things that mark a person who has become a child of God?
 - A. What do you think it means to “**practice righteousness**”?
 - B. What do you think it means to “**love your brother**”?
- Discuss how these 2 things are not ways to BECOME a child of God, but are characteristics of a person who is ALREADY a child of God.
- How can you know if you are “**practicing righteousness**”?
- How can you know if you are “**loving your brother**”?
- Do you feel like people who don't know you can tell you are a child of God just by the way you live your life?

- What makes it difficult for you to love certain people?
- How can understanding verse 13 help us to love others?

Read – Matthew 5:43-47

- What does Jesus point to as the manifestation of the reality that a person is indeed a child of God?
- Do you feel like Christians today are viewed as loving people? Why or why not?

Read – Matthew 5:38-42

In Jesus' day, the law of the Roman government was... a Roman soldier could force a Jewish person to carry their gear for one mile. No doubt, many of the Jewish people felt this government regulation was unfair.

- Why do you think Jesus said, "**Don't just do what the unfair regulation forces you to do, do DOUBLE what you are forced to do.**"?
- Which one of the following do you think Jesus is teaching in this passage...
 - A. Protect your personal rights
 - B. Show love towards other people
- Why would God want us to care more about loving others than protecting our personal rights?

TAKING IT HOME

- If you notice that you lack love for others in your life, what do you think is the best way to remedy this issue...
 - A. Try harder to love others
 - B. Take time to appreciate how much God loves you
- How can a real appreciation for God's love for us, help us to be more loving towards others?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS