

# MYTHBUSTERS

---

## Preparation

- Read the scripture selection and discussion topics.
- Pray for your meeting and group members.
- Be welcoming and the first to smile!

## Follow Up

- Remind people to pray and update the prayer journal if you have one.
- Give praise reports and updates.
- Follow up with your group midweek.

## Content Summary

- Jesus calls his followers to love the way he loved. But as recorded in the Gospels, there's a tension in the way he loved—it was messy, inconsistent, unfair, and confusing. At times, Jesus was harsh; at times, he was forgiving. At times, he pointed out sin; at times, he seemed to ignore it. Our temptation is to try to resolve the tension created around Jesus' love. But if we try, we lose something important, something essential. The challenge for followers of Jesus is to love in the messy, inconsistent, unfair, and confusing way that he did—to hang onto the tension. We must love with both truth AND grace.

# Scripture Selections

1. John 13:34-35
2. John 4:1-26
3. John 8:1-11

## Icebreaker

- Go around the room and play two truths and a lie.

## Discussion Topics

1. Have you ever had to share a difficult truth with someone at work, in your family, or at church? Were you graceful in the way you communicated? How did that affect the way the person responded?
2. People focused on truth worry that others will get away with something, while those focused on grace worry that they might make others feel bad about themselves. Which better describes you? How does that affect the way you think about God and faith?
3. In your interactions with Christians, have you mostly experienced judgment, a wishy-washy avoidance of biblical truth, or a mix of truth and grace? Explain.
4. Read John 4:1-26. What do you find most startling about this story? What about it makes you uncomfortable? What about it is reassuring?
5. Read John 8:1-11. Talk about how Jesus navigates the tension between truth and grace in verses 10 and 11. Is it significant that Jesus tells the woman he doesn't condemn her before he commands her to leave her life of sin? Why or why not?