

BE RICH

GIVE SERVE LOVE

PART 3: GOD IS LOVE

INTRODUCTION

Maybe the simplest thing we've ever learned about God is also the most complex: God is love. It's a hard truth for us to understand because we're influenced by so many other views of Him. So how does it work exactly? And what do we do with that transforming love once we recognize it?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. "Love has the capacity to transform people." How have you seen or experienced this truth in your life or someone else's?
2. **Read 1 John 4:7-12.**
 - Who do you know that demonstrates the kind of love John talks about
 - What do you think John meant when he wrote, "God is love"?
 - Why would it be impossible to know God if you're not loving?
 - How does love help overcome the problems and fears we have about sharing our faith with others?
3. How would you explain Jesus' love to someone in simple terms? Can you think of any better way to explain love than Jesus?
4. **Read John 12:1-8.**
 - What are the differences in how Mary and Judas responded to Jesus?
 - What do you think is your default response when you're faced with the opportunity to demonstrate extraordinary, generous love—the Mary way or the Judas way?
 - Would you say your relationship with God is characterized by love? Why or why not?
5. If God is love and those who know him walk in love, how is your love life? Would you characterize it as safe, predictable, and detached or is it lit up with joy, risk, and attachment? Why or why not?

MOVING FORWARD

This week we got to witness 6 people profess their faith in Jesus as their Lord and savior and then be baptized. Their response to the overwhelming love of Jesus should inspire you to share that same kind of love with those in your life. We have the opportunity, every day, to respond to God's extraordinary love for us by demonstrating extraordinary love toward the people around us.