

# Sermon Guide



## **“God Is Love: Learning and Unlearning” July 9, 2023**

”In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

**1 John 4:7-11**

- 1. Rick explained that we were created with two needs: a secure attachment with our Father and for significant value to be found in that attachment's identity. God gave Jesus the blessing of attachment in Matthew 3:17. He also gave Jesus significant value, apart from his earthly ministry, in 1 Peter 1:16-17.** What things, apart from God, do we run to for false security? Where, apart from God, do we try to find our value?
- 2. Rick made the point, "God Is Love & He Is Loving Towards You", but when dwelling on this we tend to rely on our own understanding of love that is partial, prejudiced, distorted, resisted, and that requires unlearning.** In what ways have you misunderstood the true love of God through these lenses? How can we participate in propositional and experiential learning to further understand the truth of God's love?
- 3. Rick challenged the cultural norm that pushes us to love only those who affirm and/or agree with us. We must move, in love, toward uncomfortable situations, conversations, and relationships.** What does accepting this challenge look like in our own lives? How might we simultaneously lean toward Jesus in this discomfort?

**Take Your Next Step of Faith.** What next step of faith are you called to take in response to today's teaching?