I John 4:7-12

God is Love

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 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. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us."

On Baptism

Romans 6:1-11

- ✓ What kind of changes would you expect to see in someone's life once they experience God's grace through salvation?
- ✓ Why do you think baptism is a good picture of being dead to sin and made alive to Christ?
- ✓ Why should baptism come after we have received salvation (vs 6-7)?
- √ Why do you think Jesus commands baptism when He sent out His disciples (Matt 28:19-20)?
- ✓ What do Paul's words say to those who might have fears or worries about being baptized (II Timothy 1:7-9)?

On Communion

I Corinthians 11:17-22

- According to Paul, how were the Corinthians falling short when it came to having the Lord's Supper?
- ✓ How were these practices impacting the community of believers as a whole?
- ✓ Why do you think Christians need to be reminded about the meaning and purpose of the Lord's Supper?

APPLICATION QUESTION:

- ✓ What are some of the excuses you have used, or have heard others use, for not getting baptized? How can you answer those excuses?
- ✓ What are you saying to others when you take the step of baptism? Why is it so important?
- ✓ When do you tend to approach worship, or part of the worship experience, such as the Lord's Supper, too lightly?
- ✓ What are some ways we can help each other guard against those complacencies or habits?

PRAYER

Take time this week and have the group focus inward. Leave time for quite reflection and provide opportunities for others to pray.