



Kicking it Off: What did you do to celebrate Easter this year? What was your favorite part?

Big Idea: Jesus has a promise that speaks directly to you and to your pain: You are the one Jesus loves.

Key Scripture:

- **Luke 15:4** *"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?"*
- **Luke 15:7** *"I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."*
- **Romans 5:8** *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- **1 John 4:8-10** *Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

Discussion:

1. When you think about God's love, what comes to mind? Do you tend to think of His love in broad terms or personal terms?
2. Read Luke 15:4 and Luke 15:7. How do these verses demonstrate God's heart for the lost?
3. How does Romans 5:8 challenge or reinforce your view of God's love?
4. Talk about a time when you relied on your belief in God's love and His promises despite what you were walking through or what emotions you were feeling.
5. Is there a specific pain or burden that you are carrying that you feel comfortable sharing? How can you lean on the love of Jesus?

Group Prayer: *Father, thank You for Your great love for us in sending Your Son. Jesus, thank You that You loved us so much that You died on the cross for us. Sometimes life's circumstances can make it hard to feel Your love, but as we look at the cross and the empty tomb, we trust that not even death can separate us from Your loving presence. Help us to lean on Your love this week. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

This Week: Take some time to meditate on 1 John 4:8-10 and what it means for your life. Be prepared to share with your group next week.

Memory Verse: Romans 5:8 *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Prayer Focus: Pray for those that attended Sunnybrook's Easter service for the first time. Pray that they will be encouraged to come to services at the church and will commit their lives to Christ if they haven't.