

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: Living Proof - How Real Faith Shows Up In Real Life. 1-2-3 John.

Message 6: WHAT CAPTURES YOUR HEART? - Learning to love what lasts.

Speaker: Kevin Fricker - Senior Associate Pastor

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Big Idea: What captures your heart will shape your life, so choose the love that lasts.

Connect (25min)

We heard on Sunday about how words change meaning over time. What's a slang word or phrase that still confuses you... or makes you feel old?

Examples: "Bet" "Rizz" "Cooked" "That's fire" "Low key" "Mid"

Bonus Question: What word or phrase did your generation use that younger people would never understand?

How do you notice your heart being pulled toward things without even realizing it?"

Message Discussion (50min)

1. What Captures Your Heart?

Read: 1 John 2:15–17

"Love is the direction of your heart toward what you believe gives life."

What do you think about that definition of love?

What are some things in our culture that constantly compete for our attention and affection?

2. Loving the World?

John says: "Do not love the world." But: "God so loved the world..."

- What tension does that create for you?

We learned that "the world" is not creation or people, but a system of values and desires organized without God.

- Where do you most feel pressure from that "system" in everyday life?
Examples: success, appearance, achievement, money, comfort, comparison...

3. Discuss the illustration of trying to stand in both the canoe and the dock at the same time.

- Where do people often try to "live in both worlds" spiritually?
- Where do YOU feel tension between following Jesus and fitting into the world around you?

4. John describes three desires: Pleasure, Possessions, and Pride.

- Which one do you think is the strongest temptation in our culture right now? Why?
- Which one tends to pull at YOUR heart most personally?

Pleasure: What do you run to when you're stressed? That's what you trust.

- What do people commonly use for comfort today besides God?
- How can good things slowly become "ultimate things"?

Possessions: Which garage item are you emotionally unable to throw away? (Yes, this is now group confession time.)

- What's something funny or ridiculous you've kept "just in case"?
- Then discuss: Why do possessions promise security but never fully satisfy?

Pride: The world says: achieve your identity. The gospel says: receive your identity.

- What's the difference?
- How does our culture encourage people to build identity around: success, image, performance, achievement, or recognition?
- How does the Gospel reshape identity differently?

5. You always become what you love.

- Do you think that's true? Why or why not?
- What habits, voices, or desires are currently shaping your heart most?

6. During a wildfire evacuation, people grab what matters most. If your life suddenly got stripped down to what truly matters, what would remain most important?

- What does it practically look like to: "Choose the love that lasts"?

Prayer (15min) >> Set aside 15min to Pray together as a group. Break into groups of 3-4 people to enhance this time.

Pray for:

- freedom from lesser loves
- renewed affection for Jesus
- wisdom to recognize worldly distractions
- contentment and joy in God
- courage to fully follow Jesus

May

>> **Series Challenge:** Read or Listen through the entire *Letters of 1-2-3 John* in one sitting. 25min.

>> **Share Announcements and confirm plans for your Life Group this month.**

Life Group options for May-June: *Group Social, Serving Event, Communion, Wrap Up BBQ/Party.*