

That Love

Love that is Confident

1 John 5:13-21

TALK IT OVER

Study Description

Many people like the idea of love, but the word can mean many things to many people. True love is more than a sentimental feeling. It's a love that discerns, it's a love that does not practice sin, and it's a love that will be rejected by the world but will overcome the world. Ultimately, it flows from "That Love" that comes to us from Jesus (1 John 4:10), and hopefully leads us to say, "I want to embody 'that love.'" We'll be looking at John's letters to see what true love looks like and how we can show the world that love.

Passages

"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols." — 1 John 5:13-21 (ESV)

Start Talking: Process this week as a group. (15 Min)

- What are some highs and lows of the week?
- As you reflect on last weekend's sermon, what one principle or insight stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful, or difficult to grasp?

Head: Think about the text and discuss. (10 Min)

- As you read 1 John 5:13-21, what are some words that stick out to you? Underline or highlight them. What questions come to you about this text?
- Can someone or something steal your confidence? How so?
- John writes that there is some sin that leads to death. Do you think there are different levels of sin? Why or why not? Are some sins worse than others?

Heart: Share how the text shapes our beliefs. (10 Min)

- When is it hard to have confidence in the salvation won for you in Christ?
- Is it hard sometimes to bring your brokenness and sin to God? Why or why not?
- What idols have been hard to keep away from? Which ones in your life have been overcome?

Hands: Live out the text. (10 Min)

- Where is God showing you to live out your confidence in Him?
- How is confidence different from pride? How does this reflect in your words and actions with others?

Pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

For Trio's questions see the next page

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Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. Pick a question. (15 Min)

1. Who is one non-believer or someone without a church home that you need to reach out to this week?
2. What kind of conversations are you having with people you are reaching out to?
3. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
4. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.