

## That Love

### Love that Walks in the Light

#### 1 John 1:5-10

## 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

*"This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." – 1 John 1:5-10 (ESV)*

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

- What are some Highs and Lows for the week?
- If the preacher had to give an abbreviated version of last weekend's message, what two points or ideas would you tell him to include no matter what?

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

- John talks about light and darkness in this passage. What are some qualities of both light and darkness?
- Think of other places in Scripture where light is present. How is it present throughout the Bible? (examples: Creation, Sermon on the Mount, Jesus' transfiguration, etc.)
- What does John say if we claim to have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness? What does it mean to walk in darkness according to the text?

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

- Why do you think it's important to confess our sins? How does that relate to living in the light?
- Where in your life does it feel like you're walking in darkness?
- How does it feel when you confess your sins to God or someone else? How does it affect your life?

### Hands: Start living out the text. (10 Min)

- Who is someone you trust to confess something you are struggling with? What words of comfort can you offer each other in the midst of walking in darkness?
- Take time to confess your sins to God together. You can choose to do this silently or out loud. If you are holding onto something against someone that is keeping you from fellowship with God, take time this week to reconcile with that person. You can also seek at pastor if you are epically weight down by sin.

### Pray with power. (15 Min)

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

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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.