

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve @ Mosaic!

Service Times: 1pm, 3pm and 5pm

RELATIONAL CONNECT & CHECK-IN

- What's one moment in your life when someone's love became "visible" to you - not just words, but action?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 John 4:7-12.

1. John says "**God is love.**" What is the most common **false version** of that phrase you've heard or believed before?
2. Verse 10 says love is not that **we loved God**, but that **He loved us**. Where are you most tempted to measure God's love by your performance instead of His initiative? (Take heart...this is a struggle for most, if not all of us!)
3. The sermon said God didn't just say He loves us, He made His love **visible**. If God's love had stayed invisible, how would that actually affect your trust in Him?
4. Jesus is described as our **propitiation** - meaning God's wrath was fully satisfied. What emotions does that idea bring up for you honestly: relief, discomfort, confusion, resistance? Why?
5. We often prefer a loving God **without** wrath. What would be lost if God were loving but not holy? And what would be terrifying if He were holy but not loving?
6. The sermon challenged the idea that love always affirms. Can you think of a time when love **confronted** you but, looking back, you realize that it was ultimately good? What made it loving rather than cruel?
7. "Fully alive" versus "just existing." What does "just existing" look like spiritually in real life? How do you know which of the two you're experiencing?
8. John ties experiencing God's love to also how we love others. Where is it easiest for you to talk about God's love but hardest to practice it?
9. The sermon emphasized being both **rooted in the Word** and **hungry for God's presence**. How do you feel you do with this balance? Which one could use more attention in your life? What makes you feel that way?

ACTION STEP

Notice where you mentally "edit" God this week. Where you prefer His love but resist His holiness. When you catch yourself doing it, pray: "God, I trust Your love even when it confronts me." Let Him be who He actually is...not who you wish He was.

Lastly: How can we pray as a group for you as a group? Be honest...