

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Pray the Lord's Prayer together or individually to begin the time (Mtt 6:9-13).

Share with the Group

What do you think of when you hear the word "love"? Has your definition or understanding of love changed over the years? If so, how, and why?

Have you ever had an experience of being loved that was so profound it transformed you in some way? Share it with the group.

Read Luke 9:51-56; Mark 9:38-41; Mark 10:35-37

What attitudes/characteristics does John demonstrate?

At this stage in his life would you describe John as loving? Why/why not?

Consider each passage, what would love look like in each instance?

Read 2 John vs 4-6

What does it mean to "walk in love"?

How does the use of the verb "walk" challenge some of our notions about love?

Why is John able to claim that this command has been heard from the beginning? What does he mean by this?

If this command has already been heard from the beginning, why does John need to remind the church about it? What does this mean for us?

Read 1 John 4:16-21

What stands out to you from this passage?

Why is our love for each other linked to our love for God? What are the implications of this for how we live? For how we worship?

What does it practically look like to live this out? Be as specific as possible.

Who will you actively love this week? How will you do it?

Close in Prayer

Bonus! Read the whole letter of 1John in a single setting. Don't worry, it's short! After you read it, consider what it reveals about John the disciple, about the early Church, and about God. What most stands out to you? What do you want to take to heart and live out?

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