

DISCUSSION GUIDE

True Love

Week of Oct 21, 2018

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

ICEBREAKER (Optional)

If your life was sponsored by a product, which product would it be?

DISCUSSION

On Sunday, we looked at 1 John 4:7-12. For our discussion, we are going to look at a very similar passage, 1 John 3:11-24.

Read 3:11-24 (Feel free to split up among 2 or 3 readers.)

1. John begins by telling us to "love one another" but then provides an example of how *not* to love one another. Take a moment to read **Genesis 4:1-8**. What are some things we can learn from Cain's example about how not to treat one another? What might it have looked like if Cain had loved Abel?
2. How does John describe how love should be shown?



3. What do we learn about love from Jesus' example? How does his example differ from contemporary notions of love?
4. In verses 19-21, John talks about assurance and confidence before God. How does knowing God's love for you strengthen your faith?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

5. In verse 16, John says "we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers" like Jesus did for us. What does that look like practically in your life? Give some specific examples.

MEMORY VERSE

"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers." (1 John 3:16)

PRAYER

Close in prayer for the Riverwood family to be willing to "lay down our lives" for one another and for our communities.

