

John Series

Leaders Guide

Week 8

Key Takeaways:

1. God's love is sacrificial and unconditional (agape love).
2. Love gives, goes, and guides.
3. As Christians, we are called to reflect God's love in our lives and communities.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentions three types of love from Scripture: agape, phileos, and eros. How would you describe each type, and why is agape love unique?
2. The sermon emphasizes that "love gives." How has God demonstrated His giving love in your life? How can we cultivate a more giving attitude in our relationships?
3. Reflect on the statement: "You can't accept the great gift of God's love and not give it to someone else." Do you agree? Why or why not?
4. The pastor challenges the church to be a "house of love." What does this look like in practice? How can we contribute to creating a loving church environment?
5. Discuss the concept of love that "goes." What are some barriers that prevent us from taking God's love to difficult places or people? How can we overcome these barriers?
6. The sermon uses the analogy of light and darkness. How does God's love act as a "guiding light" in our lives? Can you share an example from your own experience?
7. What struck you about the examples of Ms. Josie organizing a park playdate and the teenage girls encouraging the pastor's daughter? How can we be more intentional about showing love in our daily lives?

Practical Applications:

1. Identify one person or group in your life that is challenging to love. Commit to praying for them daily this week and look for an opportunity to show them God's love in a tangible way.
2. Reflect on areas in your life where you need God's "guiding light." Write down specific ways you can align your actions, thoughts, or habits more closely with Biblical teachings this week.
3. As a group, brainstorm a community outreach activity that demonstrates God's love. Plan and execute this activity together in the coming weeks.
4. Practice vulnerability by sharing with the group one area where you feel your life resembles a "duct-taped lamp." Pray for each other and offer support in these areas.
5. Commit to memorizing John 3:16-17 this week as a reminder of God's giving and going love.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, thank you for your unconditional, sacrificial love. Help us to not only receive your love but to give it freely to others. Guide us with your light, and empower us to go where you lead. May our lives and our church be characterized by your agape love. Amen.