

A REVELATION OF JESUS

1 John 4:7-12

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- *What are some words that characterized your life last year?*
- *It's a brand new year! What are some ways you would like to be more like Jesus by this time next year? What must you do if you want those characteristics to be true?*

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time you met. Anything you need to follow up on as a group?
- **Review** the notes you took on Sunday. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you heard?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **Lucas Bair reminded us of the importance of love in the life of the Jesus-follower.**

Introduction:

- Sometimes the Christian life seems complicated, but it doesn't have to be. Other than 1 John 4, can you think of any passages that give simple instructions on how Jesus followers are to live?

1. 1 John 4:7-8

- Love is so central to the life of the Believer that John says it is the mark of a genuine relationship with God - the proof of salvation.
 - *How does a love for other people reveal the depth of one's commitment to Jesus? Specifically, how does YOUR love for others indicate YOUR love for Jesus?*
 - *Do you love God...truly? Are there people in your life that you need to love better this week? How will you do that?*

2. 1 John 4:9-10

- In the same way that we can summarize the Christian life with the word, "love," we can summarize the way God loves us with the word, "Jesus."
 - *Why do you think God didn't just choose to use words (Scripture) to show us His love for us?*
 - *What are some of your favorite Bible stories that show how Jesus loved people while He was here on Earth? How can you follow Jesus' example of love in your family, neighborhood, or job?*

3. 1 John 4:11-12

- *What's the connection with the first part of verse 12 and the rest of the context?*
- *Lucas said, "Loving people is not just the evidence that we love God, it is also the very act that deepens my relationship with God." Can you think of times when you loved people like Jesus does (with humility, grace, forgiveness, etc.) and YOU actually grew? Why do you think it works like that?*

Think about it:

- *If your love for Jesus is "measured" by how much you love people, how much do you really love Jesus?*
- *How often do you use excuses like, "She's too hard to love," or, "He doesn't act very loving toward me, so why should I?"*
- *What kind of picture of God are you painting for those around you by the way you love them?*
- *What would change in your relationships if you spent this year deepening your love for Jesus?*

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group will truly love Jesus first, and then love others like Jesus does.