

## INTRODUCTION

God is Love. God has loved. God continues to love. Therefore, those born of God, are to love one another.

## INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore, please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your community group.

## OPENING DISCUSSION

- What was the most interesting idea/concept about Sunday's sermon?
- **Define love.**

## REVIEW

- Read **1 John 4:7-12**
- What does it mean that "God is love" (v8)? What does it mean that "love is from God" (v7)?
- Can unregenerate people truly love? What does he mean "everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God" (v7)?
- Discuss this statement: "All God's activity is loving activity."
- What does he mean by the word "ought" when he says in v11 "we also ought to love one another?"
- What are the implications of v12?

## APPLICATION

- In what way is your love different from the world's love?
- How can Christian friendship potentially deceive us into thinking we are loving like Christ, when we are not? What can we do to avoid that deception?
- In what way(s) has God loved you before you loved him?
- In what specific way(s) has the crucifixion of Jesus impacted your love for others? How should it?
- Does the world think of Christians as loving people? Why or why not? Are they right?
- How can we as a church love our local community more effectively?

## PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?