In-Home Discipleship Guide

Our hope is that you would continue to both be discipled, and disciple those around you during these days. Below is a guide to help prepare you (and your small group or family) for the sermon to be delivered via livestream on Sunday. We encourage you to take advantage of this as you are able, and let us know if there are other ways we can serve you at this time.

THEME: What it means to be children of God

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 1:7

If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

BIG IDEA: True children of God are compelled to love one another because of Jesus' sacrificial love displayed in the cross.

SONGS: Click **here** for Sunday's worship set. Be sure to subscribe to our channel!

TEACHING PASSAGE: 1 John 4:7-12

See the **next page** for additional resources, including activities that can be done with young children.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Read 1 Corinthians 13 why is love so important and how does this gift from God help us to love one another?
- 2. What does it mean that "God is love", what about God's other attributes, are they not important?
- 3. Those that do not know God can still love, what makes love from God different?
- 4. How does John explain God's most compelling (captivating, riveting, gripping) act of Love? (verses 9-10) (Romans 5:8)
- 5. Propitiation is a big word, but this word is important in knowing how much God loves us, see what you can find out about what this word means?
- 6. If no one has ever seen God, then how can we and others see the nature of God? (verse 12b)

On May 20, 2020 at 7pm, *Junior high students (JHM)* are invited to join a Zoom meeting to further discuss the sermon from 5/17/2020. *High school students (HSM)* are taking a break from large group but their leaders will be in contact with them. Follow this <u>link</u> to join meeting. The meeting ID and password for both meetings can be found below.

Meeting ID: 876 8354 9724 (email abowman@commfell.org for password)

Additional Resources

Teaching Passage: 1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

Did you know the New Testament contains 54 "one another" passages that teach us how to love? Here are a few to get you started.

Colossians 3:13

Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

1 Corinthians 13:4

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant.

Romans 12:10

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Philippians 2:3-5

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

What additional understanding do these verses give you about how to love one another?

Activities:

- 1. Decorate a lunch bag with hearts, scripture, a cross, flowers, drawings, stickers, whatever you like, but be sure to write your name on it big and bold.
- 2. Cut out hearts making one heart extra large. Write Jesus on the extra large heart.
- 3. Hold up the Jesus heart and recite verse John 3:16, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
- 4. Place the extra large heart in the bag saying "We (or use child's name) can truly love others when we (or use child's name) are full of God's love."
- 5. Now the fun part, fill the bag. Write names of friends, family, neighbors, basically anyone on the smaller hearts and drop them in the bag. Shake up the bag and pull out a small heart and discuss ways you can show love for that person and pray for them.