



Wk 11 CG 1 John 4:7-21

Big Idea:

God **is** love. When we truly know Him, love becomes our nature—expressed through intentional, emotional, sacrificial action for others. We are called not just to feel love but to *live it out*, even when it's hard, inconvenient, or uncomfortable.

Opening Icebreaker Question: What's one of the most loving acts someone has done for you? How did it impact you?

Discussion Questions:

Understanding God's Love

Read 1 John 4:7–8

- Why do you think John commands believers to love *even though* he just said love is the natural result of knowing God?
- How does this tension reflect real-life Christian living?

Read 1 John 4:12-13 & 4:21

- What do these verses teach us about the connection between our love for God and our love for others?
- In what ways does loving others make God "visible"?

Defining and Living Out Love

The sermon defined love as: *"An intentional act of the will, accompanied by emotion, that leads to sacrificial action on the behalf of another."*

- Which part of that definition challenges you most? Why?
- Can love exist without sacrifice? Why or why not?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4–8

- Which of these traits (patience, kindness, endurance, etc.) are easiest for you to show? Which are hardest?
- How can you intentionally grow in showing these aspects of love?

Becoming Living Sacrifices

Read Romans 12:1, 9–13.

- What does it look like to be a "living sacrifice" in your day-to-day life?
- Are there specific ways God may be calling you to serve or give of yourself right now?

Revisit 1 John 4:18–19.

- What fears hold you back from loving others more boldly or sacrificially?
- How can the truth of God's perfect love help you overcome those fears?

The sermon ended with a challenge: *"What am I willing to sacrifice so that others may know Jesus?"*

- What time, comfort, resources, or habits might you need to surrender in order to love more like Jesus?

Challenge:

Choose one tangible way to sacrificially love someone this week—write a note, make a meal, forgive a wrong, give time, etc