



## **Group Discussion Guide: God Is Love | August 15, 2021**

### **Begin with Scripture, silence + prayer (5 minutes).**

**Read Psalm 136** to begin your time together. This series is all about the character of God, so use this Psalm to open your time together. It gives us a great example of what it looks like to put the steadfast love of God ever before our minds!

When you're finished reading, spend 2-3 minutes together in prayerful silence. Know that God is in your midst. Where two or three are gathered, so too, is God there. This time and space is sacred. It's valuable. It's not a waste.

Finally, after a few moments of quiet centering, have a specified person in the group pray for your time together.

### **Split out into triads and recap last week's devotionals (20 minutes).**

*The following questions come directly from Day 5 of your devotionals this past week.*

- As you think over your past week, what words, phrases, Scriptures, etc. have stood out to you? What was the most significant thing? Why?
- How have you worshipped God this past week? How might you have dishonored him this past week?
- Did you sense any action steps from God this past week as a result of your reflections?

### **Come back together as a large group, read Scripture, and debrief the sermon as one large group (30 minutes).**

- In this sermon, Rhett introduced **John 17:3** to us. Read that passage together as a group. What do you think it means that eternal life is to know God? How does that compare or contrast to what you thought about eternal life before considering this verse?



- In this sermon, Rhett also talked about how God *is* love. What experiences in your life would lead you to agree with that statement? What experiences make you hesitate in affirming that?
- Do you believe God loves you? Or do you think He is more indifferent to you?
- What do you think it means that “God is love?”
- How would you define “love?” Do you think that our definition of love impacts how we apply it to both others and ourselves?
- Where do you see similarities and dissimilarities between how the Bible defines love and how the world defines love?
- Read the following passages and then discuss what they reveal to you about God’s love and God’s character: **Exodus 34:6-7; John 3:16; Romans 8:35, 37-39; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Ephesians 3:18-19; 1 John 3:1.**
- Where have you seen God’s love in your life this past week?
- How does Jesus’ coming in the flesh to die on the cross for the sins of mankind color in your definition of love?

### **Finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).**

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone’s prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.