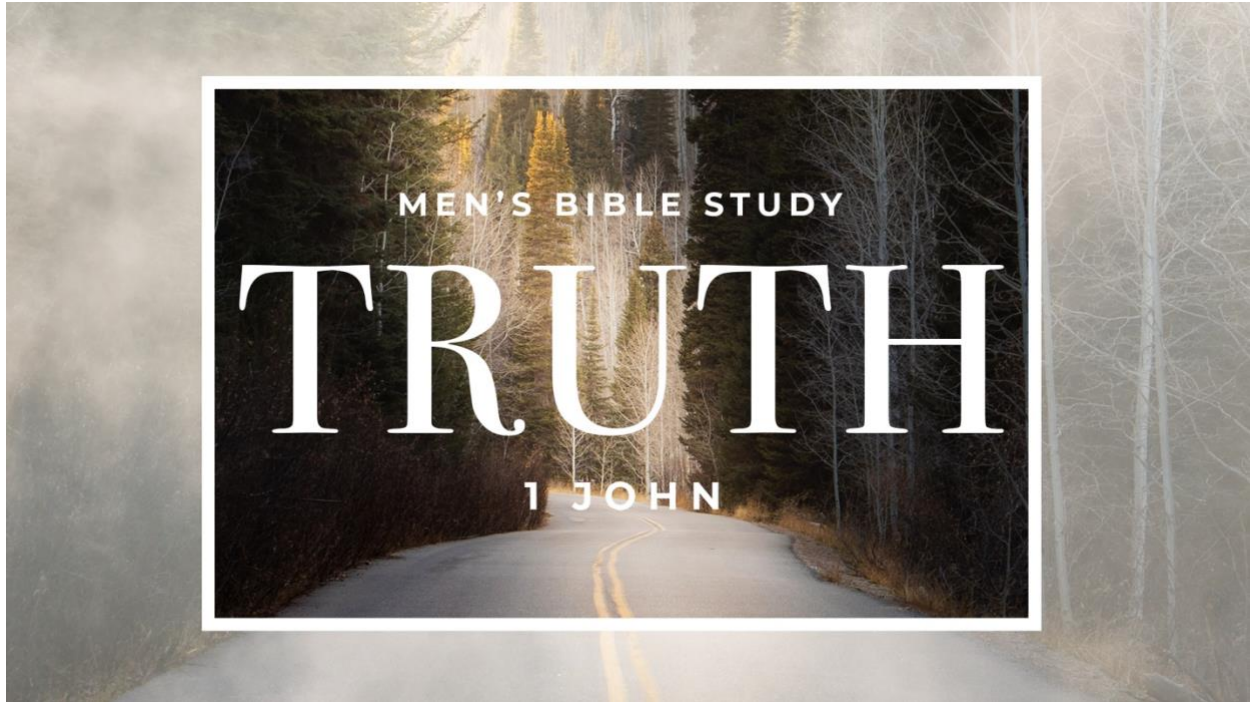


+eastridge church



SESSION SEVEN:

“LOVE” – PART TWO

1 John 4:7-5:5

SESSION SEVEN TEACHING NOTES

Scripture Memory: 1 John 1:1-9 (NIV)

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched – this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. **2** The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. **3** We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We write this to make our joy complete. **5** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. **6** If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. **8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

This Week's Study Passage: 1 John 4:7-5:5

1. God is _____

2. Supernatural Love _____ From God

3. The True Christian Has Been _____ of God

4. We _____ In God's Supernatural Love for Us

5. We _____ God Out Of Supernatural Love for Him

6. We _____ God's Love for Others

QUICK OVERVIEW

The greatest demonstration of God's love happened at the cross, where the Father sent His Son to atone for our sins. Now, on the basis of this infinite and undeserved love, God's children should be marked by love for their brothers and sisters in Christ.

DIGGING DEEPER

Although John stresses the importance of love for other believers, he clearly identifies God's love as the basis of our love: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins" (4:10).

Why is it important to see God's love for us as the basis of our love for Him (and not the other way around)?

God wants His children to know that they have eternal life. That is why 1 John continues to give us evidences of eternal life that should be present in the lives of God's people. John says that whoever loves has been "born of God" (4:7). However, these evidences are only true of those who have been "born of God", and this new birth is the work of the Holy Spirit.

Read Titus 3:5-7.

What does this teach us about attempts to enter God's kingdom based on our own efforts or willpower?

In addition to being born of God, a true Christian also abides in God and testifies to His salvation (4:13-16).

What does this truth mean for the person who professes to be a Christian but has little or no desire to hear God's Word and walk in loving obedience to Him?

How would you use this week's passage to lovingly exhort and warn that person?

REFLECT AND DISCUSS

- John tells us that “God is love” (1 John 4:8). Does this mean that God will not punish sin? Explain your answer.
- Only the Holy Spirit can give us new, spiritual life through the gospel. How should this truth affect the way we do evangelism?
- John teaches us that God’s love for us precedes and is the basis of our love for Him. How should this reality affect the main emphases of the church’s Sunday Worship Services?
- What would you say to someone who told you that they loved God but not the church? (See Ephesians 5:25-27)
- How should the love of God in the gospel change our perspective and response to God’s commands?

SESSION SEVEN GROUP PRAYER

PRAYER REQUESTS

