



LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 15th December 2024



Connecting@Christmas - Sending 1 John 4:7-17

Warm Up


Confession time! What is the worst gift someone has sent you? What is the worst gift you sent someone? (Be careful they maybe in the room!) Conversely, what do you consider the best you sent and received?

Background and context


This passage is part of a wider section on love. This particular section reveals the depth of God's love for us and what He has done to reveal that love to us. It also gives us guidance on how we ought to respond in the light of God's love towards us. It is a powerful and challenging passage that presents the Gospel and how we should respond.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity


READ 1 John 4:7-17. What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

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1. How many times does John use the word sent? What was Jesus sent to do?
 2. **v9.** How does Jesus give us life? Aren't we already living? How does **John 10:10** help?
 3. In what ways is our life not "full" as we currently experience it?
 4. **v10.** What do you understand by "atoning sacrifice"? Why do we need it?
 5. **Read 1 Peter 1:18.** Sin causes our life to be "empty". How does Jesus deal with this?
 6. **v14.** What is the implication behind the phrase "Saviour of the world"?
 7. Humans can currently live in opposition to Jesus. Will this always be the case if Jesus is "Saviour of the world?" Why?
 8. How many times does the word love/loves appear in this passage?
 9. What does this suggest about why God sent Jesus?
 10. Share some examples of how Jesus embodied God's love.
 11. In what way is God's judgement a part of His love for the world?

Discipleship and Application

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12. How does the passage suggest we should respond to God's love? What does this look like for you?
 13. **Read John 20:21.** Jesus was sent to bring salvation to the world. How are you responding to the command to make salvation known to the world?

Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.



We want to encourage the development of prayer, to help everyone grow in confidence in praying. There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.