

Dig Deeper @Home – Imitate What is Good

Complement to sermon on 4/24/2022 – “Love in Truth”

MEMORIZE

“We love because God first loved us” (1st John 4:19)

READ

Read 2 John

Questions to ponder/discuss (1&2 are great for all, 3-8 for deeper study)

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about humanity?

2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?

3. John gives us a triple command for walking. We are to walk in truth (v4), walk in obedience (v6) and walk in love (v6).
 - a. Of these, which form of walking is most natural?

 - b. Which is most challenging?

 - c. Why is it difficult to walk in all three ways simultaneously, which is the goal for followers of Jesus?

4. According to John, followers of Jesus are called to love in truth and to truth in love
 - a. What can make this challenging?

 - b. Where have you failed to love in truth or to truth in love?

5. For John, running ahead meant denying that Jesus came in the flesh and to turn away from the teaching of Christ.
 - a. What does it look like (and what doesn't it look like) to love in truth and truth in love those who begin walking these paths?

6. In what relationship do you need to love in truth? Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you to truth in love? Is there anyone you need to ask forgiveness with which you failed to love in truth or truth in love?

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The below are suggestions for how to experience the truths of 2nd John

Prayer Walk

In 2nd John we are told to walk and not run ahead. So put this into practice by taking a prayer walk with the Holy Spirit. You can do this by yourself or in a group. You can do this where you live, work, go to school or play. As your walking, look around. Pay attention. Listen to conversation. What is good news in this place? Where is God at work? How is this place already like heaven? What pieces of heaven are missing in this place? What are the concerns of the people? What can you do to make this place more like heaven? Who can you befriend? Who needs to be loved in truth? Who needs to be truthed in love? Spend time observing and listening and asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you how you can join Him in the work He is already doing.

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might be compelled to sing)

King of Kings – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OnfQpZr030>

In Christ Alone - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rn9-UNer6MQ>

O Praise the Name (Anastasis) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1mHJYjFUx4>

When we Walk with the Lord – Mennonite Hymnal #577

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and praise reports. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to show up in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Father God, thank you for your great love. That through Jesus Christ, your son, we too can be called your children. Help us to act and think with that as our primary identity as we go from here.