

Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, December 15, 2024

Scripture: Isaiah 9:4; 1 John 4:18-19



THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

God's love is demonstrated in his redemptive work by defeating the enemies of his people.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with [Reading: Ante Faciem Dei](#))*

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word *love*? How does our culture typically define and express love?
2. How can love be commanded (Deuteronomy 6:4)?
3. What historical, divine event(s) does Isaiah poetically describe in 9:4 (Leviticus 26:13; Exodus 11a; Psalm 81:6)? Why does he remind God's people of these examples, and how are they connected with God's love (Isaiah 43:1-4 Deuteronomy 10; Psalm 136)?
4. How has God graciously demonstrated his love toward humanity – even for those neglected, marginalized, and forgotten by society – through the incarnation of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:21)?
5. Discuss the cleansing and conquering power of Jesus Christ's love. Share how Jesus has personally delivered you from sin and suffering.
6. How do we mistakenly attempt to cleanse/justify ourselves and overcome our sin and shame?
7. What is the incredible freedom now ours as God's beloved adopted children (1 John 4:9,18-19)?
8. How does God's love for us change how we relate with others (1 John 4:19; Ephesians 4:15)? How do we grow our love for others?