January 26 Discussion Questions "It's All About Relationship"

1 John 4:7-21

Review

MAIN POINT: God's highest desire is to have a love <u>relationship</u> with you.

QUESTION: Why do we <u>need</u> a love relationship with God?

Because:

- A. God's love <u>defines</u> what real love is. (v.7-8, 16)
- B. God's love <u>removes</u> our sinful separation. (v.9-10; 14-15)
- C. God's love <u>transforms</u> our relationship to others. (v.11-12; 20-21)
- D. God's love overcomes all our fears. (v.18)

APPLICATION: God wants your highest <u>desire</u> to be a love relationship with Him.

Connect

- 1. Share a relationship that has been valuable to you. Why do you prize it? What do you do to cultivate it?
- 2. Do you agree that life is all about relationships? Why? To what degree does your life reflect this sentiment?

Read 1 John 4:7-21

Discuss

- 3. Where are we to get our definition of love? What can we learn about love from the way God acts throughout Scripture? Give examples.
- 4. What is the difference between a relationship with God and fellowship with God? What do you think is the effect of having close or distant fellowship with God?
- 5. According to v.12, how do we know that God's love has been perfected in us?
- 6. How do we find the ability to love someone who has deeply wronged us?
- 7. According to v.18, what casts out fear? Is it right to say that fear and God's love are like oil and water? Why?

Apply

- 8. Based upon your current season of life, why do you need a love relationship with God?
- 9. Who is someone God has called you to love unconditionally? Why is this a struggle? How can God's love encourage and empower you to respond differently?
- 10. If you were to score your current "love level" towards God on a scale from 1-10, what would it be? Why do you think this is? Be honest with your group.

- 11. How can your group hold you accountable to invest in your relationship with God before your next meeting? (Encourage everyone to share and keep the conversation healthy and not law-labored.)
- 12. What is something God has called you to do, yet you are afraid to do it? Why is this the case? How can you fight this fear according to v.18?

Pray

13. Encourage each group member to share a prayer request in reference to one of the application questions from tonight.