



*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

4/29/2018

Jesus calls us to love, but this can only happen through the power and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives as we humbly respond to Jesus. Join us for “Loco for Local” and show love. Find out more at trygrace.org/events.

QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn about God from this past Sunday’s message?
2. How does what you learned about God affect the way you look at your life?
3. Read 1 John 4:7-13. How essential is love to Christianity? Why is this so important?
4. What types of actions or words let you know someone loves you? What things make you feel loved?
5. What are some motivators of love? Or, what might spark or cause someone to love another?
6. Galatians 5:22-23, in the Amplified version, qualifies “love” as “unselfish concern for others.” How does this definition reflect upon our motivations to love? Are the things that spark or cause love to stir within us “selfless” or “selfish”?

7. Christians are called to love even those society has deemed unlovable or unworthy of love. How can we do this when our natural reaction might be disgust or distance?

8. First John 4:13 reads, "By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit" (NRSV). What role does the Spirit have in this process of love? (Consider John 14:16-17; Romans 5:5)

9. Pastor John stated "My life is filled with what I fill my life". What does this look like when you think of faith and the love of God?

10. The Holy Spirit's presence in the Christian's life empowers a life of love. What stood out to you from John's comments about the Holy Spirit as "a person whose presence in my life gives me power to love"?

11. First John states that abiding in God through the Holy Spirit is essential to growing and living in love. What does this look like? What does abiding in God involve?

12. Was there something from Sunday's message or this passage that challenged you? What steps would you like to take to respond to that challenge?

Closing Prayer

Father, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit who abides in every person who responds in faith and obedience to Jesus. Grant me the strength to demonstrate your love to those within my community and to those who I would consider least like me. Develop within me the fruit of your Spirit that I might be more like you and love more like you. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.