

# WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW

## Love Originatse with God

*1 John 4:7-21*

### Message Reflection Guide

Those who are secure in their Father's love do not fear the future. One with the Lord, they know his future is their future.

If you are uncertain about your Father's love for you, you will be anxious. Have I done enough? Will God find fault with me? Will he broadcast the secret sins of my life on a screen for all to see? These are the sorts of questions asked by those who have heard the bad news of DIY religion. To these questions the gospel of grace offers emphatic answers. God loves you and is pleased with you, and he is not holding your sins against you.

- The Grace Commentary with Paul Ellis

### CONVERSATION STARTER

Describe a time when you knew you were loved by someone because of their actions—not just their words.

### GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

**Read 1 John 4:7-21**

Brandon said, **"When we embrace God's love for us, we will actively love others in the way that God loves us."** How do you know that God loves you? How are you showing God's love to others?

God initiates love. Read verse 19 again. Why is it significant that God initiated His relationship with us? Describe a time in your life when God was doing all of the pursuing in the relationship.

God proves His love. Consider the events of Acts 1 and 2. How does the Holy Spirit prove God's love? How can you be trusting God with your identity and your life's fulfillment?

God's love transforms us. Read verses 17 and 18 again. What does John mean when he says that "love is perfected" with us? How can we work towards loving others in the way that God loves us?

### MAKING IT REAL

Are you trusting that God truly loves you? Are you trusting Him for your identity and fulfillment? Who can you be loving in the same way God loves you? Ask the Holy Spirit to give you some action steps for loving someone this week. It may be something small. It may be something bigger. Share your action steps with someone and then do it!