

Love God. Love People. Leader Guide – June 7, 2020

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We write this to make our joy complete. (1 John 1:1-4 NIV)

ICE BREAKER

Have you ever had your heart broken? Have a "light-hearted" discussion of "love fails" in your life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) John opens up his letter in a way that ensures we understand Jesus came as a human for humanity. Why is this important? Why did Jesus have to come as a human?
 - For Jesus to die in our place, He had to come as one of us He could not die for humans without being human
 - Jesus was a sufficient sacrifice because He was human and was able to conquer death/ sin, because He is God
- 2) Kevin used a line on Sunday that really gets to the heart of relationship "Withness" precedes witness. What did Kevin mean by this? How did Jesus model this for us? How can we live this out in our lives together?
 - People don't care how much you know unless they know how much you care
 - Relationship builds trust -> trust builds influence -> influence creates change
- 3) A consistent theme John pushes in these verses is proclaim, proclaim, proclaim. Kevin described this as "we naturally inform others about what transforms us." How are you informing others of how Jesus has transformed you? How can you grow in this area?
 - We naturally inform people about things that transform us -> diets, movies, vacations, etc.
 - How can you allow the transformation Jesus has brought in your life to begin to inform others of the change He can bring in theirs?
- 4) Our fellowship through Jesus is with God as well as others. We actually fully enjoy God when have fellowship with each other. How can you ensure fellowship continues in the midst of social distancing and racial tension?
 - Are you seeking to listen to and love others?
 - How can you prioritize fellowship when gathering/community is so hard?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- 1) Our joy is complete when we love God & others and help them see God loves them as well. What relationships do you need to work on to complete this circle? Who do you need to reconcile with?
- 2) We offered some opportunities to join our church in serving/loving our community, especially in the midst of our racial tension. How can your group partner with The Chapel?