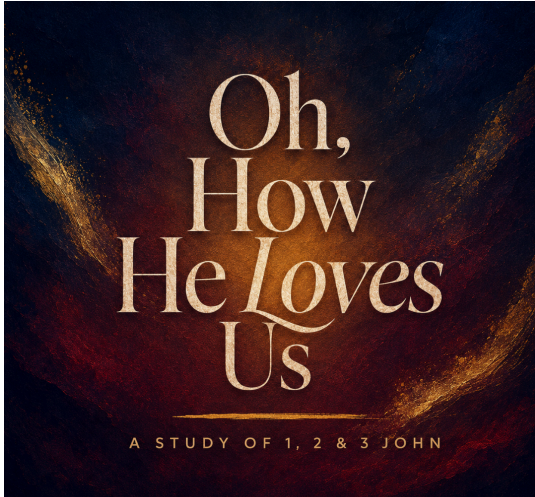




How He Loves Us

One word defines the message of 1, 2, & 3 John: Love. Specifically, God's sacrificial and perfect agape Love. This love is so perfect and so powerful, it does not lead us the way it finds us. It transforms us. It marks us. In this small group series, we will see how God's agape love for his people transforms us and every part of our lives.

WEEK THREE

Because God loves me, I will not love the world

Message Passage: 1 John 2:15-17, 1 John 5:18-19, & Luke 18:18-25

Small Group Passage: John 15:18-25

TEACHING AND VIDEO NOTES

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think John uses such strong, black-and-white language in 1 John 2:15? What do you think is at stake if our love for God becomes divided?
2. What is the difference between enjoying something God has given us and loving that thing in a way that competes with our love for God?
3. Have you ever seen Christians become so concerned about not loving the world that they became isolated, judgmental, or unloving toward people? What was missing from their understanding?

Read: John 15:18-25

4. Vs 18. "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first." How was Jesus misunderstood and hated in his own day? Does a version of that same misunderstanding or hatred exist today?
5. Vs. 19-21, "hate" is a strong word, but John used it here because that is what he meant. What God-honoring commandments, principles, and ideals are hated today?
6. Vs 21, The world is opposed to Jesus because it is filled with people who do not know Christ. Yet! We are still sent out into the world (John 17:18). To be a light to the world (Matt 5:14-16). So that the world may know Christ (John 3:16). What does it look like to go out into the world with the hope of Jesus, even though the world is opposed to that hope?
7. Vs. 25, We should not be surprised when the world is opposed to God's kingdom. Jesus warned his followers in advance (John 15:18). John even clarifies that this hatred and opposition were in fulfillment of prophecy (vs 25). How should this shape how we view and respond to the world's opposition to our faith?

PRAYER TIME

DISMISS