



December 16, 2018

Main Text: 1 John 4:8-20

**Optional Ice Breaker**

How do people show you love at Christmas and how do you show others love at Christmas?

**The BIG IDEA**

What loving God should look like in our lives.

**Getting in the Word**

Read 1 John 1, count how many times John uses the word love. In verses 7 and 21 John talks about a specific type of love, what is it? What are we commanded to do and do we do this, why or why not?

John talks about knowing God, what are the ways in which we can know God, give specific examples of how this has helped you know God better.

What is the difference between knowing of someone and truly knowing someone, why is this distinction critical when it comes to our relationship with God?

Read John 3:16-17, how does God prove His love for us? How do we prove our love for God? Is it on His terms or ours?

What does Jesus command us to do in John 13:34-35 and how does this prove we are a follower of Jesus to others? Can you say that you do this? Why or why not?

Love not only proves, but it also produces. What does knowing, loving and believing God produce in us from this text? Why is this so important?

The love of God produces in us a feeling of joy, the opposite of fear, which is connected to punishment. How does Isaiah 12:1-6 help us live with confidence and not fear?

Isaiah talks about “drawing from the wells of salvation” for our confidence when we one day stand before God. What “other” wells do we often try and draw from that we think will fill us with confidence when we stand before God? How does knowing, loving and believing God produce an eternal confidence in us?

**The BIG Question Is:**

What has your love for God proven and produced?