

9-13 Connect Group

Welcome

Opening Question: What is a character trait that you find either endearing or abrasive?

Worship

Word

Read Matthew 22:34-40 and answer the following questions.

- 1) What question is asked of Jesus? What is His response?
- 2) Look at Deuteronomy 6:4-5. What is similar? What is different?
- 3) What is Jesus saying in verse 22:40?
- 4) What do you think the impact would be if Christians were more serious about these commands?
- 5) How are our relationships with God and with people interconnected?

1) Read 1 John 4:7-14

- 2) What does this passage tell us about the source of love?
- 3) Look at verses 9 and 10. How was God's love demonstrated toward us?
- 4) What is the meaning of the word propitiation? What does this tell us about God's love?
- 5) What evidence should be present in the lives of believers?

Read 1 John 4:19-21

- 1) What do these verses tell us about the necessity of loving others?
- 2) People can be hard to love. Why is it important to remember that we need to depend on God, knowing that love comes from God?
- 3) What does it tell us that we are commanded (not merely encouraged) to love our brothers and sisters?

Digging Deeper:

- 1) What things get in the way of us loving God or people the way that we should?
- 2) The world has a version of love that is an imperfect reflection of God's love. What differences do you see between the love that comes from God and what the world calls love?
- 3) How is the command to love our neighbor related to our command to share the Gospel?

Works

Pray for unsaved friends and family members and for opportunities to share Jesus.