

NOVEMBER 26, 2017 //

## FEAR & LOVE

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*Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. All who declare that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God. We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world. Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love. We love each other because he loved us first.*

1 John 4:7-19 (NLT)

When we allow FEAR to be our guide....

**Our View of God is \_\_\_\_\_**

**Our Hearts are Hardened when we**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Our Lives Become \_\_\_\_\_**

When we allow LOVE to be our guide...

**We Rest in our \_\_\_\_\_ as the Beloved**

**We Grow in \_\_\_\_\_ in the Midst of Pain**

**We Find \_\_\_\_\_ with those who are Different**

How do we choose love OVER fear...

**Connection to the \_\_\_\_\_**

**Connection to the \_\_\_\_\_**

### **QUESTIONS FOR GROUPS //**

- *What are some fears that might drive your life at times?*
- *What are some ways that fear affects your life?*
- *What are some ways you typically cope with the feeling of fear?*
- *Read 1 John 4:18a, How could this look in your life? Give an example.*
- *Why is it so difficult to let love be our guide?*
- *In what practical way can you choose love over fear this week?*