

LISTENING GUIDE

1 John 3:16-24 – God's Love Creates More than Friends

1. God calls for and _____ something greater than _____ in the Church: _____.
2. Parts to the definition of *agape* love:
 3. So often we love to _____.
 4. It had to be an _____ choice of love that Jesus _____ down his life for us.
 5. We can selflessly lay down our life for a brother or sister when we recognize our _____, and help their _____.
 6. When I hold my _____ up to this love, it _____ me.
 7. God is _____ than my heart.
 8. God's _____ and Jesus' resurrection _____, has created me to joyfully obey God's commands and _____.

LIFEGROUPS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

COMPLETE THESE QUESTIONS IN PREPARATION FOR YOUR LIFE GROUP.
BRING THIS SHEET AND A BIBLE WITH YOU TO YOUR LIFE GROUP.



WARM UP

Who is your best and closest friend (or choose one of your close friends)? How did you first meet?

QUICK REVIEW

Was there anything you found particularly challenging, helpful, or interesting in this week's message?

INTO GOD'S WORD

Pastor didn't specifically discuss 1 John 3:24, which says, "Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us." **What points and applications from the sermon are supported and spoken again in this verse?**

In John 15, as Jesus instructs his disciples to love one another, he says: “I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” (v.11)

Explain how love displayed among believers gives Jesus joy in us and completes our joy.

This week’s message didn’t focus specifically on verse 22: “and [we] receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.”

Agree/Disagree: Obedience to God’s commands merits his answer of blessing to all our prayers.

INTO MY LIFE

Near the end of the message Pastor mentioned that the love displayed in a local Christian congregation should be a powerful witness to the world. **In what ways do you think people outside the church criticize the church and describe it as unloving?**

Which of these are legitimate criticisms of the church? Which are illegitimate? How can we strive to correct these views of the church?

1 John 3:17 serves as an example of the love we can display towards one another as fellow believers. One has the means, and another has a need. **What specific means do feel you have to help brothers and sisters in Christ? In other words, in what ways has God gifted you specifically to open your heart to other believers?**

Share with the members of your Life Group how you feel God has given them specific means to love brothers and sisters in Christ.

SHARING & PRAYER

Your prayer requests:

