



## WEEK 4 DISCUSSION GUIDE:

### RECOMMENDED READING FOR THIS WEEK: 1 JOHN CHAPTER 4

1. As a group, read 1 John 4 out loud. This will help frame the discussion.
2. How has your understanding and expression of love shifted over your life? What about through this series?
3. What are some of the major differences between a secular and godly worldview when it comes to demonstrating love?
  - A. Talk about how we can love people who have a secular worldview and still stand by our godly convictions?
  - B. What topics within the secular world are the most difficult to navigate?
  - C. What has been your experience and how have you handled them?
4. What opinion, desire, or control do you need to sacrifice to allow room for others to be part of your life and to show them love?
5. When your emotions rise toward others, what strategies do you use to stop yourself from responding in an unloving way?
6. Do you know what pathway God wants for your life? Are you following that pathway or are you following your pathway?
7. How does perfect love drive out fear? What do you fear? How do you personally fight fear? How do we culturally fight fear?
8. How often do you focus on the way someone used to be in the past, and therefore love them less in the present? If so, what can you do to love them as they are now or love them more completely?
9. Imagine your Thanksgiving dinner table. If you could invite anyone to it without family, time, or resource barriers. Who would you gather to express your love to? How would it be different than past years?

## ACTION STEP

Practice faith over fear. Take an index card or write this in your phone. What is an area of your life that causes fear, anxiety, or is burdensome? Whenever you face that issue, choose to pray for peace and freedom from it.