



**WARM UP:** What's your favourite song with the word "love" in it? What's the cheesiest love song you can think of? (bonus points if you actually sing it!)

1. *"Love is Love". "All you need is love"*. But what IS love? The Greeks had four words for love: phileo, eros, storge and agape. What are all the different ways we use the word love in our society today?

2. In this passage, John uses "love" (agape) 32 times to describe a higher love, a greater love... God's love. In fact, he says "God is love" (4:8, 16). Just off the top of your head now, in what ways is God's love higher and greater than other forms of love?

3. **Read 1 John 3:11 to 4:21 and make two lists as you read it:**

- List 1: all the characteristics of living with God's love.
- List 2: all the characteristics of living without God's love.

4. As you look at those lists, which characteristics do you identify in yourself? To what extent do you personally display God's love in your life?

5. As you look at those lists, which characteristics do you identify in our church community? To what extent do we, together, display God's love among us?

6. Reflect on the following poem and ask the Holy Spirit what He wants you to do in response to this teaching from 1 John.

*Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body. (Teresa of Avila)*

**PRAY:** That we would live in God's love and know Him more as we do.