



# Home Teams

DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAKE YOUR

MARK

May 19 & 20

# Reach

WEEK 3 • 1 JOHN 2:1-11

## OPENING QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever defended a friend or member of your family who was being mistreated in some way? How did you react (emotions and actions)?

## IN THE WORD

1. [1 John 2:6](#) tells us that we must walk as Jesus did even if we are not perfect in this ([1 John 2:1](#)). Discuss how [1 John 2:15-17](#), [3:14-20](#), [4:13-16](#), or other scriptures balance assurance with challenge.
2. The ten commandments ([Exodus 20:1-17](#)) are the beginning of many Old Testament commands that God provided to Israel (including Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy). Although there are many verses that explain the principles behind the commands, why do you think many people focus on the command, and not the principle behind it?
3. Jesus refers to a new covenant at the Last Supper in [Luke 22:19-20](#). Considering the number of instructions Jesus gave us in the Gospels, was the purpose primarily to increase the number of expectations that He has of us? How is His new covenant different from that given to Israel?
4. Read [John 13:34-35](#), [1 John 2:5-11](#), and [2 John 1:4-6](#). Why do you think He refers to love as both an old command and a new command? In what ways is love an old command? In what ways is it a new command?
5. [Matthew 5:43-48](#) tells us that we should love others in ways that exceed expectations. What motivation does God give us to do this?

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. Do you find yourself focusing on what you have to do so that God will make your life easy, or what you might do that it will be pleasing to Him?
2. Perhaps you can think of areas in which you'd like to ask: "God, is it wrong if I do this or that?" If you focused more on what would be pleasing to Him rather than on answering this question, how do you think it would change your view of that issue?
3. Do you think those outside your immediate family would say that you go beyond simply loving those who love you?
4. If others have ever attacked someone you care about, you might know how God feels when we mistreat others (because He cares about them). Is it right for you to feel defensive or angry when this happens? What would it be like if God acted on similar emotions or actions when we mistreat or neglect others?
5. Are there actions or activities you feel you should carry out on behalf of others that you have been either avoiding or are new opportunities?

## CONTINUED LEARNING

Take time to read all of [1 John](#) (not necessarily at one time) and highlight in your Bible or make a quick note on a separate sheet each time the word "love" occurs. Considering all the places it occurs, what do you learn from this?

# Notes & Prayers



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