

# GROWTH GUIDE

*For you. Your family. Your group.*

THE WEARY WORLD REJOICES  
Love for the Weary | 1 JOHN 4:9-11  
FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021

## SERMON OUTLINE

1. Love shown brilliantly. 1 John 4:9
2. Love given sacrificially. 1 John 4:10
3. Love shared generously. 1 John 4:11

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at the passage and your notes, is there anything that encouraged, challenged, or confused you?
2. What is mercy? How can God be just and still mercifully forgive us for our sins?
3. What does 1 John 4:9-10 tell us about the greatness of God's love? How is that different from the way we naturally love?
4. Romans 8:32 reminds us that not only did God give us his son, but will give us all things. How can we use this truth to encourage ourselves or others in the midst of trials, weariness, or difficult circumstances?
5. What does it mean to love unconditionally like God has loved us? Give some examples of conditions are we often tempted to put on our love towards others or God.

## BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. What has God done for you lately? If you can't think of anything, or are having trouble coming up with several things quickly, what does that show you about your heart?
2. Do you have any challenges or struggles loving family well around the holidays? If so, what is a specific way you can show brilliant, sacrificial, and generous love to your family this Christmas?

## PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray that God would help us manifest His sacrificial love toward others especially as we visit with family this week.
2. Ask God to use our Christmas eve services for His glory, and bring many visitors who don't yet know him as Lord and Savior. May several people make a profession of faith!
3. Praise God that He truly loves us unconditionally, and we can be confident knowing nothing we do can make God love us more or less.