

Love Made New
Transforming Love
9 1 John 3:1-3
June 26

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 3And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.
1 John 3:1-3

God's Love Defines Us

1. Discuss why it is important that we see God's love and grace as a gift that is given rather than earned.
2. Using John 3:16 and 1 John 3:1 as guides, discuss how God's love redefines us not only in matters of sin and forgiveness, but into actual children of God. How does this truth affect you personally when you think of being called a child of God?
3. Because we have gone from darkness to light through the love of God in Jesus, discuss the separation from the world and the things of the world that takes place in a Christian. Use John 3:1 (the reason why the world does not know us...) as a guide.

Planted and Growing Together

4. At Grace Family we are focused on what we are "becoming." Discuss the hope and sense of expectation created by John's words in 1 John 3:2 when he says "what we will be has not yet appeared...."
5. Discuss the transformation described in Romans 6:5-8. Discuss how this transformation is experienced both now and in the future.
6. Discuss the descriptions of Jesus found at the Transfiguration in Matthew 17:1-8, and in Revelation 19:11-16. What stands out? What do you think God wants us to see the most in these passages?

Growth Leads to Change

7. What difference has Jesus made in your life? How would you explain it to someone who hasn't heard the Gospel?
8. 1 John 3:3 states that "everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as He is pure." Discuss how and why faith in Jesus changes us over time.
9. Discuss what "Christian pursuits" look like in the life of a Christian. Use 2 Peter 1:3-8 as a guide.