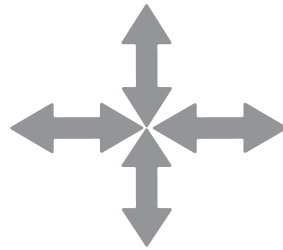




## GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of August 2nd

*Slowly, we are learning how to walk in a new atmosphere. Grace is the word. Grace. John opens his gospel saying, "For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." Of all the peoples of the world, the children of God must walk in the grace of God if we are to reflect this core attribute of God. This summer the word is grace. In exactly the pace at which the Lord is leading you through Covid-19, may his grace abound to you.*

*Now is the time to become the greatest artist you have ever been. Continue to create ways to stay relationally and spiritually tethered to your core circle. We need each other. We are gifts to one another! Together, we are the hands and feet of Christ to one another and this city!*



UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission.

**Sermon: Bible Top 5 – Love Wins for All (John 3:10-21)**

### **KeyVerse:**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (v16)

### **GettingStarted:**

Compelled by love, how much of yourself would you give to save someone you love?

### **TimeofPrayer:**

Together, begin with prayer. Lift up this present hour to the Lord. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide and guard your time together. Pray that God will use this time to further direct your heart to Him, to walk in all His ways. Pray that your time together results in the further inbreaking of the Kingdom of Heaven, which heals our hearts and brings salvation ever closer to the yet-believing community around us as we move toward our neighbors in the love and strength of Christ.



## UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Together as a group, read aloud John 3:10-21.

Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note any words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1. According to John 3:16, why does God give his only son?
2. How is a person saved according to John 3:16?
3. According to verse 18, in what state does a person stand by not believing in Jesus?



## Out: Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

1. Each week during our current sermon series we are highlighting a misunderstanding of a well-known passage of Scripture. The misunderstanding this week is that some have taken John 3:16 to mean that everyone is saved regardless of their faith in Jesus and that there is no condemnation, no eternal separation from God. Scripture offers no solid ground for this misunderstanding. Host a conversation on how the doctrine of hell, eternal separation from God, impacts how we live each and every day of our lives, especially regarding reaching our friends, neighbors, and colleagues for Christ. Together, lay your hearts out to the Lord on this subject and ask God to guide you in understanding his heart.



## IN: Connect with Each Other

Pastor Tim quotes Becky Pippert, "God's wrath is not a cranky explosion, but his settled opposition to the cancer which is eating out the insides of the human race he loves." Host a conversation on the wrath of God within this Biblical context. How ought you feel about the holy Creator hosting eternal, righteous anger against all ungodliness? How ought the knowledge that God rescues out of genuine love change how you live each and every day?

Pressing into the level of vulnerability that your group has built to date, close your time in prayer. Celebrating that God saves you out of love, confess and rejoice together. Invite the Spirit to minister to your hearts. Ask God to give you the spiritual eyes to see how He desires to use you to be His witness in the coming days. Groups of 3 – 5 are ideal for this intimate, crucial time together.