

Love Never Fails

1 John 4

God's love will never fail us. That is great news for us, but **what are we supposed to do with that love?**

- Go around the group and share one thing you love. Then go around again and share one thing you do not love. Repeat this 2-3 times.
- Go through the Community Group Guidelines together and then pray for God to speak during the Bible study.

1 John 4:7-12, 19-21. Read these verses from the Bible 2-3 times from different translations.

- What do we learn here about God's unfailing love for us?
- How often do you think about God's love in your life?
- What do we learn here about our love for others?
- How well are you loving others, or, where are you struggling with that?
- How much does God's unfailing love for you impact the way that you show love to others?

As We Go:

- What are things that you can do this week to strengthen the connection between God's unfailing love for us and God's unfailing love through us to others?
- Who are people that you can or should be intentional about showing the unfailing love of God to?
- Close by praying for each other and for opportunities to love others.

Week of May 1st, 2022

Houston First Church of God - info@hfcog.org

All Community Group Material can be found at: hfcog.org/communitygroups

Next FREE COFFEE with Naomi is May 15th at 10am – RSVP to Naomi@hfcog.org



COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDELINES

Confidentiality

Keeping things that are shared in the group confidential builds trust and shows value to the person. Confidentiality can prevent gossip that only values the story; Jesus always valued the person above their story or their sin.

Don't Rescue & Don't Fix

When someone is sharing something deeply personal and/or painful there can be a tendency to try and make them feel better about themselves or the situation. Often this will cause people to stop sharing and results in their not going as deep as they might have gone. Resist the temptation to rescue people. Try to hear what people are sharing without trying to fix them. If they want your advice, they will ask for it. You may want to take time later to ask if you can offer some advice.

No Crosstalk

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. Don't have side conversations. Trust is built in the moments when everyone feels like they are being listened to and heard by the entire group. Treat others in the group as you would want to be treated.

Use Humor Responsibly

Fun is an essential part of Small Groups; however, when meeting in the Biblical Storytelling time keep sarcastic comments, jokes and laughter to a minimum to allow for an atmosphere of authenticity and vulnerability.

Give Everyone a Chance to Share

Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Encourage everyone to participate in group discussions.

Use "I" Statements

During small group, we want to hear your personal thoughts and perspectives. Using "I" statements to answer discussion questions allows you to speak for yourself rather than generalizing by using terms such as "them", "the church", "us" or "we".

Fight for Relationship

Relationships reaches a whole new level when conflict is resolved in a healthy manner. When conflict or sin issues arise between group members, commit to fight for the relationship and discuss the struggle with the person you are in conflict with or seek wise advice.