



**FACILITATOR GUIDE/
WORKBOOK**
1 JOHN

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Published:
2015, Version 1
2016, Version 2

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WORKSHEET

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 LOVE THE WORD. LIVE THE WORD

INTRODUCTION TO FUEL

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF FUEL?

Fuel is all about the Word of God! The reason for the development of Fuel is contained in the Fuel slogan: **“Love the Word. Live the Word”**

- The aim of this teaching series is to ignite a passion for the Word of God and to help people to dig deep into the Word for themselves, and to find life.
- To establish foundational biblical doctrine in the lives of every believer.
- To help immunise against false doctrine.
- To help equip the saints to withstand the tide of persecution that is coming.
- To create a sense of unity as believers travel together on this journey – be it as a church or small group.
- To introduce biblical truths to an unbeliever in a non-threatening manner and environment.
- To equip each person to know, carry and preach the truth of God’s Word (priesthood of all believers).

WHAT IS FUEL EXACTLY?

- A video teaching series of 8-15 minutes each.
- Developed to be played within a small group setting, followed by interactive discussions.
- The intention is that the discussion would be facilitated – so that everyone can be led through the journey, in order to build precept upon precept.
- Worksheets are provided to assist with discussion points and personal reflection before the next session.
- Attendees are also provided a memory verse to help them, “hide the word in their hearts” (Psalm 119:11).

WHO IS FUEL FOR?

- Every believer.
- Those who are not yet believers can be introduced to Biblical concepts and truth in a non-threatening way.
- Fuel can be used on an individual basis, but has been designed specifically for small groups, interaction and discussion.
- Adults and teenagers would benefit from the Fuel teaching series.

MESSAGE TO ELDERS / PASTORS



Dear Leaders,

The facilitator notes provided are strictly a guide only, and an aid to assist group facilitators. It is important to note that if facilitators feel stuck - they should follow the Spirit, not just their worksheets. Remember, transformation is more important than information! We do recommend that all your leaders view the clips. You will only gain maximum benefit if all of your leaders are on the same page. Each clip is only 8-15 minutes long, so it should be possible to view each one and prepare with the notes in a short space of time.

Some Tips:

- Ensure that the small group facilitators spend ample time preparing for each session.
- Communicate with your leaders around your expectations. We recommend an evening training the facilitators and answering their questions.
- Ensure that the right people are facilitating each session. In order to maximise the effectiveness of the clips, they need to make sure that they are leading people, not just managing them, and that people are being disciplined into being faithful with the Word of God. This teaching series will not make this happen on its own - the resources are only a tool, and are only as effective as they make them.
- The 1 John teaching series consists of 6 sessions and covers Scripture thematically and not verse by verse:
 1. FUEL (INTRODUCTION)
 2. LOVE
 3. TRUTH
 4. HOLINESS
 5. FAMILY
 6. EPILOGUE (a salvation call that could be played at any time a facilitator feels is right).
- Encourage people to provide feedback, testimonies and stories on social media – i.e. photographs of people watching the clips or doing group work is great to encourage, spur on and create even greater faith and excitement.

FUEL: 1 JOHN OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW OF FUEL: 1 JOHN

In this particular teaching series we explore the book of 1 John, taking a closer look at main themes, and not a chapter by chapter break down or analysis.

The clips range from 8-15 minutes in length.

Facilitator notes are provided to facilitators to guide them with their preparation and the major themes covered in each session.

Worksheets are provided for each person attending.

A Memory Verse is provided to assist people with hiding the Word of God in their hearts, along with some reflection questions for personal study time.

The 6 Sessions are broken down as follows, according to key themes:

- Introduction to Fuel
- The Times
- Love
- Truth
- Holiness
- Family
- Bonus: Epilogue (Salvation Message)

MEMORISING SCRIPTURE

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

In Psalm 1, the Psalmist describes a blessed man. A man who is full of fruit in season and evergreen. This man prospers in everything He does, and one of the keys to his success is that he meditates on the Word of God day and night.

In this modern age there is very little we need to remember. Our mobile phones contain all the numbers we need. Chrome remembers all our passwords for us. Facebook remind us about birthdays and anniversaries. And Google calendar remembers our doctor's appointments! The same with the Bible; when we need a verse, we can just look it up!

But in Psalm 119:11, David says, "Your word I have hidden in my heart"!

There's a big difference between having God's Word at your fingertips and having it in your heart. When the Word is in your heart it can wash through your mind, transforming you and making you more like God. When the Word of God is in our heart it is a caution and protection against sin, or doing anything that doesn't please God. When the Word of God is in us, it is life to us and strength.

In this teaching series, we have provided memory verses and recommended personal reading for every session, and encourage those going through this, to take time to learn the memory verses and to read the recommended personal reading. All Scripture is God breathed, and as we meditate on His Word, God is able to teach us His ways, convince us of His will, correct us when we stray, and train us in righteousness.

FUEL: 1 JOHN

FACILITATING SESSIONS

WHO SHOULD FACILITATE?

Fuel is designed around a short clip followed by interactive discussion. The facilitator should be someone who can lead the group, ask open questions, draw people out and create an environment for free interaction and discussion. Often the best person for this is the Small Group leader or a leader with good facilitation skills; a teacher fills this role quite well.

- For Small Group leaders, consider using the deacons/other leaders in your group to assist you in leading sessions (don't keep the pressure all on you).
- Be careful if you delegate this to someone who is not a leader and/or does not possess the skill to facilitate - this needs to be strongly facilitated as it rests on the interactive discussion (and preparation).
- Facilitators can be rotated for various sessions for variety, all the pressure does not need to be placed on one person. However, some groups may find the consistency of one group facilitator aids people opening up.

PRACTICAL PREPARATION

- Always check that the Clip/DVD plays and is working well.
- Always ensure you have read through everything and understand what is required.
- Ask everyone to bring their Bibles, something to press on, as well as a pen for taking notes or writing down questions or thoughts.
- Check if you need to hand the worksheet out before or after playing the clip (this may differ from session to session).

FACILITATION TIPS



Your Audience

Think about your specific audience and the clip, and adjust your leading of the sessions accordingly.

- Do you need to play it through a second time? Either immediately or at the end of the discussion time again?
- Do you want to pause at points and discuss what is said? (Only recommended if playing through a second time – it has been designed to watch through in one sitting).
- Will your second language speakers be able to understand it all? How can you accommodate them?
- What is the age of your group? Does a certain word/term need to be explained? How can you adjust for them?
- Is your group mostly non-believers / new believers. How do you explain Christian terms to them simply and effectively?

Asking Questions

Think about the questions you ask and ensure you are engaging everyone.

- It is often best to write down questions ahead of time to guide you, as we so often forget in the moment.
- Be careful of questions that you "throw out" to the floor. Quiet people will hold back and loud people will dominate. Direct questions to specific people if possible.
- Closed questions that garner only a yes/no answer will not assist in creating discussion. Try and ask open questions that will encourage more of a detailed/explanatory response, for example, "*How do you go about your daily Bible reading, Hayley?*" or, "*Please share what you understand from that verse*".
- If a closed question is asked or someone replies with a simple Yes/No, all is not lost – take it one step further by ask them to clarify their answer, for example, "*Why do you say that?*" OR "*What makes you respond that way?*" etc.

Encourage Interaction

There are always those who stay quiet in the group and those who speak too much. The effectiveness of Fuel hinges on interaction, and everyone being able to offer their perspective and to get involved.

- Pay attention to your group members. Who is too quiet, and who is speaking too much?
- If someone is not talking or interacting, gently call them by name and ask them a direct question.
- If someone is talking too much, try and direct away from them, with linking statements and a new question directed at someone else. For example, "*Thank you, that is an interesting point you made about your battle with reading the Word, Bob. Julie, do you find that the same is relevant in your life?*"

Listen

Someone may say something that may be more relevant at a later point; do not redirect the conversation suddenly and immediately move away from the current topic, but later go back, for example: "*Edith, earlier you said you are doing well in the reading of the Word - what practical things do you do to help you in the reading of the Word?*"

Directing

You are the one leading and directing the discussion and taking it somewhere, however this does not mean you are doing all the talking and answering of questions. You may feel like a "lecturer/teacher" in a room - in a sense this is what you are, but without the teaching part (as that is already done); instead keep the discussion going, ask well placed questions, summarise statements and keep up the energy and flow. This is the essence of facilitation.

Watch Time

Start on time to allow for flexibility. Rather make the clip and discussion/Q&A a priority and set aside at least 90 minutes for the video and discussion. Consider forwarding announcements/admin via email, or worshipping afterwards, to allow for maximum time around the clip and discussion. Remember, some episodes may lean towards a time of ministry after the fact, so allow for this.

Large Groups

Too large groups do not provide an environment conducive to interaction and getting everyone involved. Rather break into smaller groups and/or use multiple rooms with laptops. This will encourage everyone to get involved and will prevent spectating from happening.

HAVE FUN

Traditional small group training courses recommend ice-breaker games to “break the ice”, and help people relax. Sadly, this has tended to fall a bit out of fashion in recent years. The fact of the matter is people often learn best through having fun, as well as bond together at the same time. We encourage you to perhaps think of something fun to do, in particular around the learning and memorisation of Scripture.

One of the churches who ran Fuel, had a leader share the following ideas – we hope it inspires and ignites some creativity in you:

“So, following on from the first DVD, where I suppose most didn't know what to expect; I didn't want it to become too serious as that could so easily have led things towards becoming somber & dull. I wanted to keep people motivated & make it as enjoyable (not just FUN - but getting people to really drop their guards down) as possible. Especially with an area such as "Bible Studying" which most find difficult & a chore!” Also, I know that the more comfortable people become with each other, facades and walls are then taken down; and people are more open to becoming REAL and HONEST with one another.

So, using the memory verses & with knowing that most people can be quite competitive (especially where there are prizes such as chocolates to be won... Actually, the "runners-up" also got something)

- The recap of the first session, I took the memory verse & wrote each word on small squares of paper. I then added in some random words then jumbled them up. I made two sets of these & then gave it to each team! The team who figured out the right verse with all the right words won.
- On the 3rd session, we recapped Session 1 & 2. I did a Cranium type game. I made little game cards which they either had to act out (charades); draw (Pictionary) or sculpt out of play dough. I also wrote out one of the memory verses with missing words, which they had to fill in.
- The 4th session, we recapped Sessions 1, 2 & 3! I used 30-Seconds as my motivation, and made little game cards with 5 topics/items that each person had to describe without saying any part of the ACTUAL word. They had to roll a dice to determine how many correct answers they needed before being able to score. 1 point for every correct answer & half-a-point to the opposition if they answered correctly!

DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is ongoing. While the questions during the small group sessions are useful guidelines for leading discussion and for personal reflection, they are also useful for one-on-one discipleship whilst the series is running. It is a wonderful *excuse*, to broach the subject of the Word of God, or the latest session topic over a cup of coffee, and to continue to “massage in” the message and to touch base with your small group members.

APPLICATION

The intent of this teaching series is that it goes far beyond regular small group meetings and discussions; that people would fall IN LOVE with the Word of God, and engage more with the Word on a personal basis as part of the process. For this reason the following are included in the Worksheets:

Personal Reflection: Personal reflection questions are outlined in the worksheets. Encourage everyone to spend time reflecting on these statements/questions on their own between sessions. They are based directly on the clip and can be covered in their own time, or discussed over a cup of coffee.

Memory Verse: In order to help people dig into the Word and to hide it in their hearts, a memory verse will be provided for them to learn. This will appear as, “Meditating on the Word”.

Further Reading: Recommended reading will be provided. This will lead up to the next session’s episode.

FACILITATOR PREPARATION

It is not advisable to simply arrive and facilitate a session without adequate preparation. While we encourage being led by the Spirit, the nature of Fuel requires preparation for effective impact and change, and the Holy Spirit will guide you as you prepare.

- Read the book of 1 John. It is a short book. You may want to read it more than once in preparation.
- Watch the Clip/DVD’s. You may wish to watch these more than once; please allow more than enough time for this, and not one hour before your group meets.
- Read over your Facilitator Notes and work through the suggestions, information and questions.
- Refer to the Worksheet to familiarise yourself with the main themes contained in the episode and what those attending will be receiving.
- Pray for the evening and plan for an appropriate ice-breaker/worship/discussion/prayer. Suggestions may be made in the Facilitator Notes based on the theme for the session.
- Be Spirit led. Ask Him to guide you as you prepare, and during the session as you lead.
- Do not re-teach the clip – use it to facilitate discussion and try to get your small group members to engage, interact and talk (more than you!)
- Always keep in mind that the aim of this teaching series is to ignite a passion for the Word, to help people dig into the Word and find life!

Note: While the message is built every session, this series has been created so that it is not necessary to have to watch the episode before to understand the next. If someone misses an episode, they can easily catch up, or if not, they can join in on the next session easily enough without feeling like some knowledge is missing. We encourage you to briefly recap the prior session to help connect the episodes and to build strongly to moving forward.

Anticipate and expect God to move and work in hearts and lives. We cannot wait to hear what God does, in and through this time. We trust for such breakthrough and incredible testimonies.

Enjoy and remember to have fun!

SESSION OVERVIEW

| | THEME | DURATION |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Session 1 | Introduction to Fuel | [07:52] |
| Session 2 | The Times | [09:55] |
| Session 3 | Love | [10:54] |
| Session 4 | Truth | [08:45] |
| Session 5 | Holiness | [10:45] |
| Session 6 | Family | [16:00] |
| Bonus | Epilogue (Salvation Message) | [05:44] |



CLOSING

We trust that FUEL has been a tool in helping unlock an even greater desire for the Word of God in your life and in the lives of those you lead or come across.

May 1 John never be the same again, but most especially, may you and your church never be the same again.

We encourage you to keep your eyes on Jesus, to fall in love with Him daily and to never give up on reading His Word. May you constantly be, “fuelled up”.

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9



SESSION 1: FUEL

FACILITATOR GUIDE

YOUR WORD IS A
LAMP TO MY FEET
AND A LIGHT TO
MY PATH
PSALM 119:105



FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 1 | FUEL

KEY SCRIPTURE

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” Psalm 119:105

SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION TO FUEL

This first episode gives us the answer to the question, “Why Fuel?” Throughout this episode we are introduced to our need for the Word and why we should continually be filled with the Word. We discover that this series has been created to, “equip, inspire and ignite within each of us a deeper passion to delve into the Word of God and find the vast array of riches there. We learn that we are all on a journey and we cannot always live our lives dependant on others for filling us up, but that each of us needs to find God for ourselves and dig deep into the Word of God on our own. If we have dug deep foundations in God and are filled up on the Word, we will be able to continue to stand in times of hardship and persecution and will see those around us, and the nations, mightily impacted – we will see, “*salvations, the supernatural, signs and wonders and cities turned upside down*”.

KEY STATEMENTS FROM THE CLIP

- “The Word of God is an essential component in making sure we arrive safely at our destination”.
- “God’s desire for you, His Church, isn’t simply survival – it’s revival. He wants us to be the ones who are salt and light to the world”.
- “These early spirit-filled believers were marked firstly - before anything else - by a commitment to truth. They were devoted to the apostles teaching (Acts 2:42). In other words, they were passionate about, and committed themselves to understanding and applying what God had revealed in the Scriptures ... They learned to look at the world through the lens of what the Bible taught rather than their culture around them. Being grounded in truth was vital to their growth.”

FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

AIM OF THIS SESSION

The aim of the session is to help lead people to respond to Jesus and His Word. Trust to lead your small group into some form or response before the Lord as a result of what comes out of the discussion. Some potential discussion questions follow, please remember to let your group members do the speaking, while you facilitate. Try not to preach or rehash the clip.

RUNNING THE SESSION

- Play and watch the clip.
- Hand the Worksheets out AFTER the clip.
- Move into discussion guided by the Group Discussion questions.
- To close - briefly touch on the memory verse and personal reading and let them know that in the next session we will be looking at 1 John and the theme of THE TIMES of 1 John.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Note: These questions are different to the Personal Reflection questions on the Worksheets. See APPLICATION below for more information relating to the Personal Reflection questions. These questions are also here to guide you as the facilitator. Feel free to ask your own questions as you feel led by God. You can also just ask a few questions, it is not necessary to ask them all! If your group opens up you may not get past 2 questions and that is ok!

- Where are you at in your personal journey with the Word of God? Why?
- Would you consider yourself to be “filled up” with the Word or running on empty?
- What is taking priority in your life over and above the Word of God? Why do you think this is so?
- What is preventing you, or getting in the way of you, reading the Word?
- For those who are at a good place in reading the Word, what has helped you to reach this place?
- What can you practically do to help you refuel and grow more disciplined in reading the Word?
- Why do we need to ensure we are filled with the Word? What good will it do?
- Is filling up on the Word for us, or for others? How so?
- How prepared are you to stand in the face of persecution, trials and hard times?
- Do you have what you need to finish the race strong?

APPLICATION

The intent of this teaching series is that it goes beyond a once off small group meeting and discussion. We would love to see people fall in love with the Word of God, and engage with the Word during their personal time, as part of this process.

In order to grow in understanding and bring about change in their lives, we encourage them to spend time on personal reflection, memorisation of Scripture and recommended reading. As such this is the practical element of Fuel.

APPLICATION REFERENCE - WORKSHEET COPY

In order to grow in understanding and bring about change in your life, we encourage you to do the following before your next session. Consider this the practical element of Fuel.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

“We’ve got places to be, things to do, life is busy; who’s got the time to stop and fill up with the Word of God?”

- How much time are you spending filling up with the Word of God?
- What is taking up your time and taking your focus?
- What are you devoted to?
- What can you do to change this, if your focus is wrong?

“God’s desire for you, His Church, isn’t simply survival – it’s revival. He wants us to be the ones who are salt and light to the world”

- Are you in survival mode or seeing revival?
- What can you do to move from survival to revival?

“These early spirit-filled believers were marked firstly - before anything else - by a commitment to Truth. They were devoted to the apostles teaching (Acts 2:42). In other words, they were passionate about, and committed themselves to understanding and applying what God had revealed in the Scriptures ... They learned to look at the world through the lens of what the Bible taught rather than their culture around them. Being grounded in truth was vital to their growth.”

- What lens do you currently see the world through?
- How are you pursuing truth in your daily walk with God?

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSES

“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you” - Psalm 119:11

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” - Psalm 119:105

PERSONAL READING

Read (or listen) to a chapter of **1 John** every day this week.

SESSION 1: FUEL

WORKSHEET

YOUR WORD IS A
LAMP TO MY FEET
AND A LIGHT TO
MY PATH
PSALM 119:105



WORKSHEET: 1 JOHN

SESSION 1 | FUEL INTRO



KEY SCRIPTURE

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" Psalm 119:105

INTRODUCTION TO FUEL

"God made us: invented us as a man invents an engine. A car is made to run on gasoline, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on." - CS Lewis

NOTE SPACE

This is your space: as you watch the clip or during the discussion that follows afterwards you can take notes, write down questions, or record what God is saying to you.

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MEMORY VERSES

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“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” - Psalm 119:105

PERSONAL READING

Read (or listen) to a chapter of **1 John** every day this week.

SESSION 2: THE TIMES

FACILITATOR GUIDE

DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS - HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL." ROMANS 12:2



FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 2 | THE TIMES

KEY SCRIPTURE

“For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life - is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” - 1 John 2:16-17

RECAP SESSION 1

Session 1 was an introduction to FUEL and why the Word of God is so important in our lives. Before getting started, briefly ask about how your group’s reading of the Word went during the past week. Why not also have some fun while recapping the memory verses.

Note: Remember this is about leading people towards studying the Bible and not about making them feel guilty if they have not done so. Try encouraging them in their individual walks and allow your enthusiasm to overflow and inspire them.

SESSION 2: THE TIMES

It’s time to jump into 1 John. The clip will take a closer look at the background /context of 1 John: who the author is, where he lived, the times he lived in and why he wrote this letter – drawing a direct parallel with the world we live in today and the situations we are now facing.

AIM OF THIS SESSION

As a small group it is time to dig deeper and read through 1 John together, potentially touching on some of the key themes. These themes will also be covered in greater detail in the coming sessions, so focus on more of an overview of the book and general themes than detailed exploration.

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FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

- Play and watch the clip.
- Hand the Worksheets out AFTER the clip.
- Read the book of 1 John together and take a look at the provided Factsheet.
- To Close - briefly touch on the memory verse and reading personal and let them know that in the next session we will be looking at 1 John and the theme of LOVE.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read the book of 1 John as a group out loud. People can take turns reading. TIP: ensure Bible versions are the same/able to flow well, for example the Message Bible will not work in this instance, as it does not break the verses up in the same fashion as other versions.
- Pause and give everyone time to read and reflect. Depending on your group and the question asked, either encourage them to write down their own thoughts in the space provided on their Worksheets and then discuss, OR immediately enter into discussion.

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PERSONAL REFLECTION

Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

- What do you see when you look at the world today?
- John wrote his letter to Christians facing pressures of various kinds from the world: What kinds of pressures are you facing at the moment, from the world?
- How are you overcoming them?
- What do you think it means not to love the world?
- How does 1 John speak into our context today?
 - * See Matthew 24:9-14 (ESV)
 - * Also 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (ESV), referred to in the clip.

[“Ours is not the first generation to face opposition” - Fuel episode 2, The Times](#)

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life - is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” - 1 John 2:16-17

PERSONAL READING

By now you should have read 1 John through. Read **1 John** again, in one sitting, from beginning to end. Also try read the **Gospel of John** as well as **2 John & 3 John**.

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FACTSHEET

BOOK | 1 JOHN



AUTHOR

John, Son of Zebedee

Disciple and Apostle

Wrote the Book of John, as well as 1, 2, 3 John and the book of Revelation

Originally a Fisherman

Nicknamed “the disciple whom Jesus loved”

Read 1 John as a group out loud

GEOGRAPHICAL INFO

WRITTEN: As an old man, in Ephesus 85-95AD.

CITY: Asia, modern day Turkey, the fourth most important city at the time. A Cosmopolitan City. Home to the Temple of Diana (a goddess worshipped at the time).

CHURCH: Well established church there. Paul had worked into Ephesus (Acts 19) with great miracles, and repentance (Acts 19:19-20).

AUDIENCE: Likely meant for Ephesus and other cities nearby.

WHY WRITTEN: To combat false teachings and expose false teachers. To combat false doctrines, i.e. Gnosticism and heresy. To provide assurance of salvation.

RELEVANCE TODAY: We have similar heresy today that it combats, i.e. the “hypergrace movement”. There are so many similarities to today’s church. Read it as the Inspired Word, with relevance to our context today.

READING 1 JOHN: It is a letter meant to be read from start to finish. It will give you a greater appreciation for what the author is saying and context for his arguments.

SESSION 2: THE TIMES

WORKSHEET

DO NOT CONFORM TO THE PATTERN OF THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND. THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TEST AND APPROVE WHAT GOD'S WILL IS - HIS GOOD, PLEASING AND PERFECT WILL." ROMANS 12:2



WORKSHEET: 1 JOHN

SESSION 2 | THE TIMES



KEY SCRIPTURE

“For all that is in the world - the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and the pride of life - is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” - 1 John 2:16-17

SESSION 2: THE TIMES

It’s time to jump into 1 John. The clip will take a closer look at the background /context of 1 John: who the author is, where he lived, the times he lived in and why he wrote this letter – drawing a direct parallel with the world we live in today and the situations we are now facing.

NOTE SPACE

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APPLICATION

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Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

- What do you see when you look at the world today?
- John wrote his letter to Christians facing pressures of various kinds from the world: What kinds of pressures are you facing at the moment, from the world?
- How are you overcoming them?
- What do you think it means not to love the world?
- How does 1 John speak into our context today?
 - * See Matthew 24:9-14 (ESV)
 - * Also 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (ESV), referred to in the clip.

“Ours is not the first generation to face opposition” - Fuel episode 2, The Times

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

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MEMORY VERSE

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READING 1 JOHN: It is a letter meant to be read from start to finish. It will give you a greater appreciation for what the author is saying and context for his arguments.

SESSION 3: LOVE

FACILITATOR GUIDE

BY THIS WE KNOW LOVE, THAT HE LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US, AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR THE BROTHERS... LITTLE CHILDREN, LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD OR TALK BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH. 1JOHN 3:16&18



FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 3 | LOVE

KEY SCRIPTURE

“By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers ... Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” - 1 John 3:16 & 18

RECAP SESSION 2

In Session 2 the clip took a closer look at the author, context and background of 1 John and how it is still relevant to our context today.

SESSION 3: LOVE

AIM OF THIS SESSION

To together explore the theme of Love: God, as a God of love, a God who is Love and a God who shows love; and how we are to love God, as well as others, not only in word and speech, but also in action and in deed.

FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

Before getting started this session, we suggest briefly asking about how your group’s reading of the Word went during the past week and what God has been saying to them. For example you could ask:

- What has God been saying to you this week through His Word?
- How can we help you as a community to dig even deeper?
- Has He impressed anything new on you; a fresh revelation that you can share?

Have some fun as well and recap the memory verse. Remember Fuel is about leading people towards studying the Bible and not about making them feel guilty if they have not done so. Try to encourage them in their individual walks and allow your enthusiasm to overflow and inspire them.

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Note: We are exercising muscles that are very weak and for some these muscles have not been in use for a long time. For many this new exercise may seem very sore and they may easily get tired. We need to remember that this will take time, and building a muscle is a slow process.

- **Worksheets:** Hand the Worksheets out BEFORE the clip. There is space for note taking.
- **Play and watch the clip.** Consider playing the clip twice. Perhaps, the first time without taking notes, followed the second time with note taking, OR play it at the end of the discussion again, OR play it once, ask a few key questions from your prep time and play it again – this is not prescriptive. Feel free to work with your group and ask them if they would like to watch the clip again and when.
- **Move into discussion:** some suggested questions and group focus points follow.

GROUP DISCUSSION

To make this session a bit more practical, in line with the theme, we suggest:

- Ask people to share about how they have personally experienced the love of God being shown to them through others. Allow their testimonies and personal stories to stir up what love can look like, in order for the small group to go out and do likewise.
- Spend some time planning and praying about how you as a group can put love into action in the upcoming weeks (“to inconvenience ourselves on someone else’s behalf”).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (OPTIONAL)

- What does it mean to you that God loves you?
- Do any of you struggle with the need to be loved? Why?
- Who here struggles to love people? Why do you feel this is the case?
- Who here struggles to receive love from people? What do you think stops you?
- In this small group – do you feel loved and cared for? If not how can we do this better?
- What are we going to do this week to show love to the unlovable?

APPLICATION

The intent of this teaching series is that it goes beyond a once off small group meeting and discussion. We would love to see people fall in love with the Word of God, and engage with the Word during their personal time, as part of this process.

In order to grow in understanding and bring about change in their lives, we encourage them to spend time on personal reflection, memorisation of Scripture and recommended reading. As such this is the practical element of Fuel.



APPLICATION REFERENCE - WORKSHEET COPY

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PERSONAL REFLECTION

Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

- What does it mean to you that God loves you?
- Do you struggle with your need to be loved? Why do you feel this way?
- Do you struggle to love people? Consider why this is the case?
- Do you struggle to receive love from people? What do you think stops you?
- In your small group – are you loving and caring for others? If not, how can you do this better?
- Think about how you have personally experienced the love of God being shown to you through others? How did it make you feel? What was the impact on your life?
- How have you shown love to others in practical ways? How did it make them feel? What was the impact on their lives?
- What are you going to do this week to show love to the unlovable?
- Are there any adjustments you can make in your life, to live out the love of God more?
- We encourage you to take some time to be vulnerable and share some of your reflections with those you are accountable to, so that you can grow and perhaps receive prayer or support where relevant.

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers” - 1 John 3:16

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” - 1 John 3:18

PERSONAL READING

This week read through 1 John again. Highlight the passages that speak about **Love** and spend some time focusing on these Scriptures.

SESSION 3: LOVE WORKSHEET

BY THIS WE KNOW LOVE,
THAT HE LAID DOWN HIS LIFE
FOR US, AND WE OUGHT TO
LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR
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WORKSHEET: 1 JOHN

SESSION 3 | LOVE



KEY SCRIPTURE

“By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers ... Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” - 1 John 3:16 & 18

SESSION 3: LOVE

This clip explores the theme of Love: God, as a God of love, a God who is Love and a God who shows love; and how we are to love God, as well as others, not only in word and speech, but also in action and in deed.

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SESSION 4: TRUTH

FACILITATOR GUIDE

BY THIS WE KNOW LOVE, THAT HE LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US, AND WE OUGHT TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR THE BROTHERS... LITTLE CHILDREN, LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD OR TALK BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH. 1 JOHN 3:16 & 18



FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 4 | TRUTH

KEY SCRIPTURE

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” - 1 John 1:7

RECAP SESSION 3

In Session 3 we explored the theme of Love: God, as a God of love, a God who is Love and a God who shows love; and how we are to love God, as well as others, not only in word and speech, but also in action and in deed.

SESSION 4: TRUTH

AIM OF THIS SESSION

In the clip, sin is likened to a cavity in your tooth and how we need to deal with the cavity to prevent infection, not only in the mouth but also in the whole body. In this session we explore the effect of sin in our lives, both on a personal level and in the Body of Christ. We look at the need to deal with sin (darkness) and the importance of confession and repentance (bringing it into the light). Ultimately – to save us from pain and suffering and to set us free - as the closing lines of the clip says,

“John’s letter urges his readers, and I would urge you now. Will you submit yourself to your perfect Heavenly Father who loves you? Yes, He loves you just as you are, but also loves you too much to let you stay as you are. He loves you too much not to reveal the truth to you; a truth that may be unpleasant in the short term but that will ultimately set you free.”

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FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY

1. This session could lead to your group moving into PRAYER, REPENTANCE & CONFESSION. Consider the following in your preparation:

- Should you be comfortable – consider being open and accountable and speaking about things in each other’s lives. If you are going to do this, it is always good for the leader to start.
- Given the possible direction the facilitator should more than likely be a Small Group Leader, Deacon or Elder.
- If you are a big group, think about breaking up into smaller groups of 3-4 people and praying for one another.
- Ensure you have a strong male and female leader available to facilitate within gender specific small groups, should the need arise.
- Be prayed up and expectant that God will set people free. Trust for vulnerability and openness and be prepared for ministry and deliverance.
- Have worship prepared as well as ministry type worship for background music.
- Arrange someone to assist with kids to free up parents for ministry and minimise distractions.
- Try and start on time/early to allow for ministry and keep upfront admin to a minimum.
- Have tissues handy.

2. If openness, prayer and confession are not something that can be worked in as part of the session for whatever reason (this is something that should be part of what the small group leader is doing as part of discipleship on-goingly anyway) then consider the following:

- Write down some key phrases and points from the clip that stand out for you as the facilitator. This will assist you as you get more of an overview in your preparation and allow God to begin to lead and speak to you in terms of what He wants to do in the course of the session.
- Have some worship prepared – it is a great session to worship.
- See the proposed discussion questions.

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FACILITATION

Check-In: As a community you may have discussed how you could each personally reach out in the week and show love or how you could do this as a group. Depending on what you decided, briefly “check-in” with your small group members on how it has gone i.e:

- What did they do this week to step out and show others love?
- Are there any testimonies (victories) or battles they wish to share from the week?
- In their reading of 1 John and highlighting the word “love” are there any further “aha” moments they would like to share?

The Memory Verse: Depending on the time you have available, have some fun recalling the memory verses together. (PS – see if anyone can recount the past 3 weeks verses – you know, just for some fun!) Do keep in mind that this week may open into ministry time and allow for ample time to facilitate this.

Worksheets: Hand the Worksheets out BEFORE the clip. There is space for note taking.

Move into discussion/ministry: As per your preparation.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How do we as Christians address such things as sin?
- How do we speak the truth in love to those that don’t know Jesus, in a world that is increasingly hostile to the gospel?
- Has anybody ever experienced when they have brought something into the light and been set free? (Has anybody got a testimony to share?)
- What are the kinds of things that prevent us from bringing things into the light?
- Do you feel that you are unable to bring things into the light with people you are in relationship with within a small group context? Why is this?

APPLICATION

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- What are the kinds of things that prevent you from bringing things into the light?
- Do you feel that you are unable to bring things into the light with people you are in relationship with/ within a community context? Why is this?
- Is there anything God is prompting you to bring into the light with your leaders or a friend that you are accountable to? (Why not schedule a time to meet with them today? This step can bring such freedom into your life).

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” - 1 John 1: 7

PERSONAL READING

Last week we read through 1 John and highlighted passages that speak about Love. This week read through **1 John** again and highlight the Scriptures that speak about **Truth; Darkness and Light**.

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SESSION 4: TRUTH

WORKSHEET

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WORKSHEET

SESSION 4 | TRUTH

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SESSION 5: HOLINESS

FACILITATOR GUIDE

NO ONE WHO IS BORN OF GOD WILL CONTINUE TO SIN, BECAUSE GOD'S SEED REMAINS IN THEM; THEY CANNOT GO ON SINNING, BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN BORN OF GOD. 1 JOHN 3:9



FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 5 | HOLINESS

KEY SCRIPTURE

“No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God” - 1 John 3:9

RECAP SESSION 4

In Session 4 we explored the effect of sin in our lives, both on a personal level and in the Body of Christ. We looked at the need to deal with sin (darkness) and the importance of confession and repentance (bringing it into the light), in order to save us from pain and suffering and to set us free.

SESSION 5: HOLINESS

AIM OF THIS SESSION

This session we take a closer look at holiness: what it means to be holy, why we should live holy lives and how to do so. As stated in the clip,

“We don’t become holy because we no longer sin. We no longer sin because we have been made holy. In other words, if we are holy, then we must live holy lives.”

FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

FACILITATOR PREPARATION

Along with watching the clip, working through these notes and praying for your group, try and spend some time reading these key scriptures from 1 John, that are also referenced in the clip:

- 1 John 1:8
- 1 John 3:2-6
- 1 John 5:18a, 21

DURING THE SESSION

Check-In: As a group you may have spent some time in the last session sharing, confessing and repenting, or in discussion around some questions relating to the clip. Depending on the direction you took, briefly “check-in” with your community members on how their week went.

Note: You may want to do this in smaller gender specific groups, due to the sensitivity of what might have been dealt with the session prior. Focus on some accountability type questions, for instance:

- How are you doing with regard to what you shared last week?
- Are there any testimonies (victories) or battles you wish to share from the past week?
- How could we pray for you and stand with you into the future?

The Memory Verse: Depending on the time you have available, have some fun recalling the memory verse/s together.

Worksheets: Hand the Worksheets out BEFORE the clip. There is space for note taking.

Move into discussion: As per your preparation.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

KEY FOR THIS SESSION: Don’t get lost in a discussion on loss of salvation, but rather emphasise John’s argument that we can be assured of our salvation, if we are living holy lives. Focus on positive aspects and what it means to live a holy life (obedience, living the Word etc.).

The book of Hebrews speaks of deliberate sin. John talks about continuous sin (when we keep on sinning).

- Once we are in Christ – is sin something we have any choice in? (i.e. I can’t help myself)
- Discuss the Power of Sin i.e:
 - * What does it mean that we have been set free from the power of sin?
 - * Does sin affect our relationship with God?
 - * Point them to the difference between position and intimacy, that sin may not stop you being a child of God, but it will certainly affect your depth of relationship /intimacy with Him.

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SESSION 6: HEADS UP

The following and final session of Fuel is going to be around the theme of **FAMILY**. We recommend that in line with this theme, you plan to share **communion together (breaking of bread)**. Along with this you may wish to plan a meal or pudding evening. There will still be a clip and discussion, but this is a wonderful way to live out something of the theme on the night.

Invite friends and family to join you for the evening and ask your small group members to invite others too. Keep in mind evangelism is always intentional.

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APPLICATION REFERENCE - WORKSHEET COPY

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Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

The book of Hebrews speaks of deliberate sin. John talks about continuous sin (when we keep on sinning).

- What does it mean to live a holy life?
- Once you are in Christ – is sin something you have any choice in? (i.e. you can't help yourself)
- What does it mean that we have been set free from the power of sin?
- Does sin affect your relationship with God? If so, how?
- If you have not yet taken the opportunity to talk to a leader and to confess/repent of some sin in your life, we really encourage you to still do so. It is not too late. The Holy Spirit is prompting you; follow His lead. You will be set free.

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“No one who abides in God keeps on sinning and no one who keeps on sinning has either seen God or known him.” - 1 John 3:6

PERSONAL READING

Last session we read through 1 John and highlighted passages that speak about Truth, Darkness and Light. This session read through 1 John again and highlight the Scriptures that speak about **Sin & Obedience**.

SESSION 5: HOLINESS

WORKSHEET

NO ONE WHO IS BORN OF GOD WILL CONTINUE TO SIN, BECAUSE GOD'S SEED REMAINS IN THEM; THEY CANNOT GO ON SINNING, BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN BORN OF GOD. 1 JOHN 3:9



WORKSHEET

SESSION 5 | HOLINESS

KEY SCRIPTURE

“No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God” - 1 John 3:9

SESSION 5: HOLINESS

In this clip we take a closer look at holiness: what it means to be holy, why we should live holy lives and how to do so. As stated in the clip,

“We don’t become holy because we no longer sin. We no longer sin because we have been made holy. In other words, if we are holy, then we must live holy lives.”

NOTE SPACE

This is your space: as you watch the clip or during the discussion that follows afterwards you can take notes, write down questions, or record what God is saying to you.

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APPLICATION

In order to grow in understanding and bring about change in your life, we encourage you to do the following before your next session. Consider this the practical element of Fuel.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Through this series, open your heart to what God would say to you and allow His Spirit to work in you and transform you to reach this lost and broken world. Before your next session spend some time working through the below. Remember, this is for you... there are no wrong/right answers.

The book of Hebrews speaks of deliberate sin. John talks about continuous sin (when we keep on sinning).

- What does it mean to live a holy life?
- Once you are in Christ – is sin something you have any choice in? (i.e. you can't help yourself)
- What does it mean that we have been set free from the power of sin?
- Does sin affect your relationship with God? If so, how?
- If you have not yet taken the opportunity to talk to a leader and to confess/repent of some sin in your life, we really encourage you to still do so. It is not too late. The Holy Spirit is prompting you; follow His lead. You will be set free.

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“No one who abides in God keeps on sinning and no one who keeps on sinning has either seen God or known him.” - 1 John 3:6

PERSONAL READING

Last session we read through 1 John and highlighted passages that speak about Truth, Darkness and Light. This session read through 1 John again and highlight the Scriptures that speak about **Sin & Obedience**.

A close-up photograph of hands building a tall, multi-story tower out of yellow and white LEGO bricks. The hands are positioned around the tower, with one hand at the top and another at the bottom. The background is slightly blurred, showing a plaid shirt and a green sleeve. The overall scene is warm and focused on the construction process.

SESSION 6: FAMILY

FACILITATOR GUIDE

SEE WHAT GREAT LOVE THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD! AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE! THE REASON THE WORLD DOES NOT KNOW US IS THAT IT DID NOT KNOW HIM. 1 JOHN 3:1

fuel

FACILITATOR GUIDE

SESSION 6 | FAMILY

KEY SCRIPTURE

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us”- 1 John 4:11 & 12

RECAP SESSION 5

In Session 5 we took a closer look at Holiness: what it means to be holy, why we should live holy lives and how to do so. Part of the discussion explored the power of sin and how sin impacts on our relationship with God.

SESSION 6: FAMILY

AIM OF THIS SESSION

“God sets the lonely in families” (Psalm 68:6a). In this session we look at the importance of being part of a godly family (church) and what this meant to the first century New Testament believers, and ultimately what it means for each of us today.

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” - 1 John 3:1a

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FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS

FACILITATOR PREPARATION

- As this is the last session of Fuel, and it is about the subject of family, we recommend building around the clip by sharing a meal / having a pudding evening together.
- Invite friends and family to join you for this evening and ask your small group members to invite others too. Keep in mind that evangelism is always intentional.
- Organise bread and grape juice for the breaking of bread together.
- ***This session there are 2 clips.** One is 'Family' – the 6th episode in our Fuel Series – and the other is a 'Bonus Feature' – this is the Gospel Message.
 - * Watch BOTH in your preparation, so that you know what content is covered.
 - * On the evening play this extra clip as a salvation message and follow the prompting of the Spirit. It may be that through this time God has stirred someone's heart to give their life to God or to recommit their life. Try not to assume everyone in your group is saved and ask God to lead you on the night as to what to do and when. Trust for a response and be ready to baptise etc.
- **Optional:** If no one responds or if you feel that there is no need to play it for the salvation message (everyone is saved) – then you can play the clip and use it as a means to discuss evangelism. (See discussion questions)

DURING THE SESSION

- **The memory verse:** This is your final opportunity to recall the memory verses and have some fun around them. (Keep in mind any potential guests and ensure they are not left out during this time).
- **Worksheets:** Hand the Worksheets out BEFORE the clip. There is space for note taking.
- **Play & watch the clip:** This is a longer clip. Bear in mind there is an optional second clip too, so this evening we do not advise playing the clip twice.
- **Gospel Message/Bonus Feature:** Depending on how you feel led, play the gospel message. Follow up if anyone responded or move into discussion.
- **Move into discussion/breaking of bread/meal:** As per your preparation.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- FAMILY CLIP
 - * In light of everything we've heard, what does it mean to actually live as a family?
 - * How do we practically live family out in community/church?
- GOSPEL MESSAGE
 - * What principles can we learn from this clip for sharing the gospel with others?
 - * Who are you going to be sharing the gospel with this week?

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APPLICATION REFERENCE - WORKSHEET COPY

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FAMILY

- What does it mean to actually live as a family?
- How do we practically live family out in community church?

GOSPEL

- Who are you going to be sharing the gospel with this week?
- What is stopping you from sharing the gospel?
- Where can you make adjustments in your own life, to step out in sharing your faith more?

MEDITATING ON THE WORD

Memorising the Scriptures and meditating on them day and night, is one of the ways God shapes us and makes us into the people He wants us to be.

MEMORY VERSE

“By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, that you have love one for another.” –
John 13:35

PERSONAL READING

- Last week we read through 1 John and highlighted passages that speak about Sin and Obedience.
- This week read through **1 John again**, and **reflect on the past 6 weeks**:
 - * What are the key things God emphasised and has spoken through 1 John to you?
 - * How do you feel you have been impacted and changed?
 - * What do you need to put in place to help you continue to apply these lessons to your life?
- Write these down as a means of reflection and a reminder for later reference (to help you keep account.)
- Consider meeting with your leaders/those you are accountable to and discussing how you have personally been impacted by Fuel and perhaps where they can continue to help you in walking forward.

SESSION 6: FAMILY

WORKSHEET

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WORKSHEET

SESSION 6 | FAMILY

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