

# Tour 3-Small Group Discussion

## Tour 3: Redemption - The Heart of God

### First Ask, "What did you see? lets list them..."

- This was the third epoch of God's Meta-Narrative: Redemption
- We looked at the crime scene in the garden of Eden where God breathed out a promise instead of wiping everything out and starting over again
- We saw there would be a war between Satan's seed line and the seed line of the Messiah
- The *Proto-evangel*, the 1<sup>st</sup> instance of the Gospel proclaimed (Woman's seed will crush Satan's seed)
- We talked about the woman's seed
- Satan's seed? (John 8:44) Jesus speaking to the Jews, "You are of your father the devil..."
- The promise was in the seed and God nurtured that seed line until Christ came
- We saw the crown jewel: love — John 3:16
- The greatest send of all time
- Why are we disappointed? Maybe the word "love" doesn't mean anything anymore
- We talked about that word being broken and twisted; that we use it to speak of things that enhance our own scripts
- We talked about the importance of words and the Scripture says words are important and that we are in a battle over words today
- God speaks words of life; Satan turns them into words of death
- Truth and love go together, inseparable; if you try to tear them apart you lose them both
- We talked about what it looks like when we try to have love without truth and truth without love
- We looked at the word: agape
- We defined true agape love as "the sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good, the shalom, of another"
- We saw that true agape love was focused on the other and not selfish nor holds back truth
- Love is not a handout, nor is it feigned love, like Judas
- We looked at Da Vinci's painting and depicting John as effeminate
- We talked about Jesus and the disciples seated at a triclinium
- We talked about true agape love not being for whims; it will cost us something; Jesus being the great example
- We talked about James and John nicknamed "Sons of Thunder" yet John wrote a lot about truth and love
- Love is not a minor theme

- We looked at a lot of Scriptures and its theme of truth and love
- We looked at tough verses about not having true agape love
- We looked at 1 Cor 13 and rang the gong
- We talked about our three questions all answered in the crown jewel of God — John 3:16
- We talked about grace and defined it as true agape love directed toward an enemy
- Who has heard that anyone would seek the shalom of an enemy, yet that is what true agape love and grace is
- We looked at the word: Chesed, the steadfast love of God
- We defined true Chesed/agape love as “the steadfast, sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good, the shalom, of another”
- God is steadfast toward us in his true agape love and grace; he is zealous in this
- Even when it appears all is lost and we talked about Isaiah 6:13, “The holy seed is in the stump”
- We talked again about us being a Remnant living in a Land of Nought, but the spirit of God dwells within us
- We listened to the song, The Love of God
- We ended with the reading of Romans 8:31-39

**What else did you see?**

**Then Ask, "What struck you?"**