

#### **LOVE**

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- External: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

## **TRUTH**

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)

- When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?
   [Dialogue]
- 2. Read our primary text. Without looking who can recall the tribes present in this text? Locate and find the tribes in verses 4-15.
  - Reuben, Simeon, Judah, Issachar, Ephraim, Benjamin, Zebulun, Mannaseh, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Gad. (Note: The tribe of Joseph was divided into two tribes, Ephraim and Mannasseh. The tribe of Levi eventually took on a supportive role in the nation of Israel as the priestly tribe and residents of the cities of refuge.)
- 3. What were these twelve tribal leaders asked to do by Moses (through the direction of the Lord)? What was the duration of their journey?
  - They were to "spy out the land of Canaan" and bring back a report concerning the quality of the land and the morale of its inhabitants. Their journey was 40 days long.
- 4. How was the report to Moses? What did Caleb say and then what did the other leaders say?

  Caleb gave an optimistic report expressing that "we are well able to overcome it." The other tribe leaders gave an exaggerated, negative report stating, "we are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are" and "the land devours its inhabitants, and all the people we saw in it are of great might" and "we are like grasshoppers compared to them."
- 5. What reactions are present when the people receive these reports? What does the Lord decide, ultimately?
  - **Rebellion** (the people) and **Faith** (Joshua and Caleb). The Lord decides that the people of Israel will have consequences for their rebellion; 40 years in the wilderness. And those 20 and older (those who were enrolled to fight and refused) would die in the wilderness.
- 6. What important principle is illustrated for us here concerning sin?

  When God forgives sin, he does not always eliminate the consequences of sin.
- 7. How does this text challenge you? How does it affect your daily life? [Dialogue]

8. How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member? [Dialogue]

## **GREAT COMMISSION**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Is there anyone that needs an invite to our church or this group?
- Is there anyone you know who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
- Does anyone here need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

# **CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE**

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply his word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

#### **HOMEWORK:**

- Memorize our weekly "Fighter Verse" ("Fighter Verses" app available in the app store)
   Philippians 3:9 ...and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.
- Listen to the book of Numbers by 2/05 (approx. 2hr 57min).

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)