

Finding *Renewal* in the Love of God

Unit 3: Discovering Renewal in the Presence of the Spirit Group Discussion

*You might expect to spend about 25 minutes discussing these questions**:*

1. Which of the question(s), thought(s) or resulting idea(s) blessed or challenged you this week and why?
2. How do Jesus' teachings in John 14-16 impact your understanding of the Spirit as taught in John's letter? What does it mean to you that Jesus valued the Spirit in the life of the Christian so highly? (see John 14.16-17, 26; 15.26; 16.7-8, 13-15)
3. How can one justify the broad brush which John uses to paint a picture of those in fellowship with us in Christ (see 4.1-3) against the harsher lenses he uses to expose those he calls "Antichrists?" (see 3.8-10). What might we learn from the Spirit's based on this instruction?
4. What does it mean to you that the Spirit of the Living God, the same Spirit shared in the Godhead, indwells you? Instructs you? Testifies of your belonging?

Note: If many of your group members have either not completed their homework or struggled with the concepts in the text, complete this assignment together before going into your discussion:

Assign each group member a scripture from questions 2 and 4 on the Study Questions. Take turns reading these scriptures and answer the two questions as a group so that you can get John's teaching about the Spirit and the Antichrists on the table as quickly as possible. As you consider John's testimony about the Spirit in the life of the Christian (questions #2 and #4), what assurance(s) do you find? Explain your response.