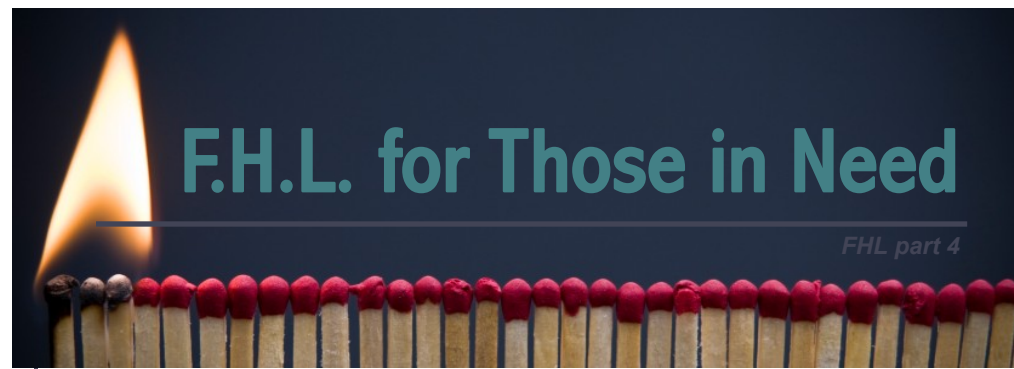


Study Questions:

Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

Key passage: 1 John 3:1-3; 14:20

1. What questions did this week's message raise for you?
2. Read again (out loud if you're willing) 1 John 3:1-3, 14-20. This is John, the brother of James. He apparently was predisposed to a fiery temper and to judgment of people who were less than they should be (see Luke 9:54-56). How does this passage from his first letter explain the transformation that had taken place in him and what empowered it?
3. What does what John is saying to this church show us about God's calling on our church?
4. Many commentators believe that John is re-stating in this letter what Moses said in the Old Testament about the poor in Deuteronomy 15:7-8. The reason Moses gives these commands is stated in Deuteronomy 4:5-8. Read Deuteronomy 4:5-8...
 - a) In light of this passage, what purpose do you think God has for asking his people to care for the poor?
 - b) What reaction is He going for in those outside the family of faith?
5. Read Isaiah 58:6-11...
 - a) What does this section of prophecy promise when we work for justice?
 - b) What might God be calling your Community Group to do together to claim this promise?



Key passage: 1 John 3:1-3, 14-20

March 14, 2010

¹See 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. ²Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3

¹⁴We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷If any one of you has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in you? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

1 John 3:14, 16-20

1. Bringing FHL to the poor answers _____.
2. Bringing FHL to the poor is a sign that _____.
3. Bringing FHL to the poor is powered by _____.

