

## **These Things Are Written || God Is...We Are...**

1 John 4:7-5:5

### **Reflect:**

Love is our theme for this lesson. John continually reminds us to love one another, that God is love and how God loved us before we ever loved Him. On top of that John goes on to say, there is no fear in love, but “perfect love casts out all fear.” Our subtitle; ‘God is...we are’ comes from verse 17b...‘because as He is, so are we in this world’. It comes from the three character traits of God, ‘God is love’, ‘God is light’, and ‘God is Spirit’. Thus, what God is, is now what we are to be also. These three traits are what drew each of us to God. When we emulate these character traits in our own lives we make the invisible God visible to the world around us. When we display His love, His light, and His Spirit we are revealing the presence of God on earth.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. John said there is no fear in love, perfect love cast out fear. Practically speaking the fear of judgement could dictate the car we drive, the clothes we wear, where we work, our house, the neighborhood we live in, even our kids education. The context John is speaking about is the fear IN THE DAY of judgement. Or us being unsure of our salvation. Everyday we take measures to mitigate the fears or insecurities in our everyday lives but what are you doing spiritually to drive out the fear of eternal judgment and give yourself confidence in the love of Jesus Christ?
2. God is light...God’s light draws us in, it is attractive. The beauty of His creation, the allure of Godly attributes; everything about God is wonderful and attractive. When John saw God sitting on the throne in Revelation 4:3 there was the appearance of jasper and a sardius stone, there was rainbow around the throne in appearance like an emerald. Gods light draws us in, His beauty and the color that surrounds Him draws us to Him. If us as Christians are to be a light unto the world, what beauty are we demonstrating to draw people in; how can we make Christianity appealing to the lost?
3. Read Mark 2:1-12. We always hear things like; how can a loving God let bad things happen to good people. God’s love for us is so much deeper than the physical. Yes, God does want to meet our physical needs but not at a spiritual or eternal cost. What was God’s primary concern in the life of the paralytic? How can this help us better answer that question of “How can a loving God let bad things happen to good people”?