



Small Group Homework for week of August 23rd

“God’s Love is Tough”
Pastor Mirek Hufton

Conversation starters.....

⇒ School “started” this past week. Do you have children or grandchildren that are starting the new semester either in lower grades or college? How is their school doing it? What are some of the challenges or benefits they are experiencing?

⇒ Pastor Mirek is continuing his series on the love of God. What a needed topic for this season! God’s love is tough! Not only the love He has for us, but the love we must have for one another. The definition that Pastor used was “tough... strong enough to withstand adverse conditions or rough handling.” I was thinking of the Dodge Ram Tough commercial. What is a product that you would consider “tough” and why.

⇒ Using this definition, describe how the love of God in our lives must meet these requirements in our dealings with others. Can you think of one example?

Into the Bible....

⇒ Read **Ephesians 4:15**. This week we are talking about the aspect of love that speaks the truth. Another word for truth is *reality*. Why is speaking the truth so important in our relationships, especially our close relationships?

⇒ Read **1 John 3:1-3**. This talks about the type and manner of love that the Father has given us. It is a kind of love that the world does not recognize. What makes God’s love so different from the natural love that is in the world.

⇒ For our last passage, read **John 17:14-19**. Another word for sanctify is “set apart”. Jesus is saying that we are set apart by the truth, the Word of God. We have a standard to live by. Read **verse 26**. Jesus’ love is in us. And we know from the examples that Pastor gave in the sermon that Jesus in no weakling! Let’s pray for one another that God will give us the wisdom to handle our relationships with love that is tough, but effective and done in love. This is a big assignment, but God gave us the tools to live this out in our everyday lives.