Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, for October 4th, 2026
"A Journey through the Book of 1st John"
"The Lavish Love of God Our Father"

Sermon Text: **1 John 3:1-10 (NIV);** Old Testament Text: **Psalm 136:1-10;** Gospel Text: **John 1:14-18.** Read **1 John 3:1-10**, then answer the questions below.

1. Read **1 John 3:1.** What does the word ***lavished*** mean?

2. Why does God give His love to us so abundantly?

3. Why doesn't the world recognize us as ***God's children?***

4. Read **1 John 3:2.** According to this verse, why should we look forward to Christ's return with great anticipation?

5. Read **1 John 3:3.** How do we ***purify ourselves?***

6. Is this possible on our own? If not, who must we rely on to accomplish this?

7. Read **1 John 3:4.** How does John define sin?

8. Read **1 John 3:5.** How did Jesus take away our sins?

9. What are two different ways of interpreting: ***And in Him is no sin?***

10. Read **1 John 3:6.** What is the difference between ***committing a sin*** and ***continuing in sin***?

11. Read **1 John 3:7.** How does our relationship with Jesus help us to live this verse out?

12. Read **1 John 3:8.** What are three steps we can take to find victory over sins that tempt us on a regular basis?

13. Read **1 John 3:9.** Who intervenes on a believer's behalf to keep them from ***continuing in sin?***

14. How does He do this?

15. Read **1 John 3:10.** What two things define a true ***child of God?***

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 136:1-10** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
   1. Read **Ps. 136:1-10.** When you think of the word ***steadfast,*** what qualities come to mind?
   2. Are those qualities you naturally associate with God? Why or why not?
   3. When you think of the word ***endure,*** what thoughts come to mind?
   4. How does it make you feel to know that ***his steadfast love endures forever?***
   5. The first line of every verse varies, while the second line of every verse is ***for his steadfast love endures forever.*** Which of the first lines from ***vv. 1-10,*** did you find most meaningful?
   6. All 26 verses of ***ps. 136*** end the same way. What would you guess the psalmist's intent was for this psalm?

II. Next read **John 1:14-18**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions.
   1. Read **John 1:14.** What does John mean by writing: ***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us?***
   2. What ***types of glory*** would John and the rest of the apostles (especially Peter & James) have seen with their own eyes?
   3. In what different ways would John and the rest of the apostles have experienced the fullness of ***Christ' grace and truth?***
   4. Read **John 1:15.** What ***John*** is the author, John, referring to here?
   5. In your own words, explain what that ***John*** was saying in ***v. 15?***
   6. Read **John 1:16.** At what point do we first experience the fullness of ***Christ's grace?***
   7. Why is it essential to our spiritual well-being that we frequently seek after ***His grace?***
   8. Read **John 1:17.** Restate this verse using the Old and New Covenant in your paraphrase.
   9. What awaits mankind through the Old Covenant?
   10. What awaits mankind through the New Covenant?
   11. Read **John 1:18.** How does this verse help to explain God's reason for sending His Son to this earth?

III. Read **1 John 3:1-10,** utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:

1. Read **1 John 3:1.** What does the word ***lavished*** mean?
2. Why does God give His love to us so abundantly?
3. Why doesn't the world recognize us as ***God's children?***
4. Read **1 John 3:2.** According to this verse, why should we look forward to Christ's return with great anticipation?
5. Read **1 John 3:3.** How do we ***purify ourselves?***
6. Is this possible on our own? If not, who must we rely on to accomplish this?
7. Read **1 John 3:4.** How does John define sin?
8. Read **1 John 3:5.** How did Jesus take away our sins?
9. What are two different ways of interpreting: ***And in Him is no sin?***
10. Read **1 John 3:6.** What is the difference between ***committing a sin*** and ***continuing in sin***?
11. Read **1 John 3:7.** How does our relationship with Jesus help us to live this verse out?
12. Read **1 John 3:8.** What are three steps we can take to find victory over sins that tempt us on a regular basis?
13. Read **1 John 3:9.** Who intervenes on a believer's behalf to keep them from ***continuing in sin?***
14. How does He do this?
15. Read **1 John 3:10.** What two things define a true ***child of God?***