

## Life Group Discussion Questions

# Heart Check

***“Strive for Purity”***

1 John 3:1-3

**BIG IDEA:** If we believe God loves us, we will pursue purity.

### Gathering Together (Icebreaker)

Share with your group about a time when you were absolutely blown away, astonished, left speechless, amazed, awestruck (you get the point) by something that you witnessed, saw, heard or experienced (maybe a birth of a child, a beautiful scenery, a traffic accident, an artistic performance, a thrilling story, etc.). What was it about this experience that made it so profound for you?

### Growing Together (Truth/Equipping)

Read **1 John 3:1-3**.

In **v. 1** we see that John’s mind is being blown by the love God has for His children as he commands his readers to “*See it! Behold it!*” What does that command mean for you today? How have you *beheld* God’s love for you?

How would you define “*God’s love*” in your own words? How might you explain it to a 5-year-old child? When you think about God’s love, what passages of Scripture come to mind (besides the one we’re all thinking of)?

When you consider that Jesus literally died on the cross to give you life, what effect does *seeing* this love that God lavishes on you have on your thoughts and emotions? Does this image of gospel-love impact your life in any way? If so, how?

How would you encourage a person who believes that God truly *loves* them but that He just doesn’t *like* them very much? Have you ever felt that way?

What does **v.1**. say about a person that blends in quite nicely with the culture of the world around them rather than coming across as separate and distinct from it? What do you suppose the apostle John would say to such a person? Consider **John 15:18-21**.

In response to passages about how true Christians will be hated by the world, the temptation can be to “pull out” and disengage from the world around us. How is a believer to balance that impulse with what we read in **John 17:13-19**?

### **Getting Real Together (Accessibility)**

The application of this passage based on **1 John 3:3** is to *pursue purity now*. What are some common areas where believers may struggle with pursuing purity?

Read **1 Thessalonians 4:1-8**. What does this passage tell us about what the will of God for our lives is? What is sexual immorality? What falls underneath that broad term and is this an issue in our culture today? If so, where do you see it?

What does it mean to control your body in holiness and honor vs passion of lust? Why is this issue a big deal to God? Consider **v.7-8**.

Do you agree with this week’s big idea? Why or why not? → “*If we believe God loves us, we will pursue purity.*” How do we reconcile our genuine desire to grow in holiness with the reality that we still struggle and chose to sin? Maybe reading **Romans 7:15-8:1** might help.

Are there areas of your life where you are growing in holiness right now? Which ones? Can you identify some areas where you may have become complacent? How can your life group support you?

### **Praying Together (Supplication)**

- Pray that God’s love would become a strong, motivating force for obedience and the pursuit of purity in the lives of our group and church as a whole
- Pray that the Gospel would bring freedom and healing to believers addicted to impurity
- Pray and thank God for His lavish, other-wordily love in our lives