



Discussion Questions: Love Incarnate – December 7, 2014

Speaker: Aaron Woodhouse Passage: 1 John 4:7-12

1. The actual word Incarnation is not specifically used in scripture. We get our doctrine of the Incarnation from the key biblical passage in John 1:14. Read this passage together, look at the whole of John 1:1-14 and discuss how these verses give us assurance of Jesus being 100% God and 100% human at the same time.
2. Read Hebrews 4:14-16 together. How does Jesus Incarnation provide us with encouragement for our lives in regards to: grace, temptation, our own limitations and weaknesses, our faith?
3. Further study of some key bible passages on the incarnation: Phi 2:5-11, Acts 20:28, Rom 8:23, 1 Cor 2:8; Heb 2:11-14, 1 Tim 3:16, Gal 4:4. Spend some time reading these passages and sharing how these help in our understanding of the Incarnation.
4. This Christmas season I pray you will have an opportunity to share about Jesus with a co-worker, friend, or family member. How would you use the Incarnation of Jesus as a way of sharing your faith with them. How would you describe the Incarnation to someone who is not a Christian? What are the key things that are so significant about the Incarnation?
5. Read 1 John 4:7-12 together and then look specifically at verse 10. Spend some time talking about the qualities and characteristics of God that you remember and focus on in prayer and your Christian walk. When we think about the qualities of God it is easy to see why we would love him, but the amazing thing about this passage is that he loved us. Why is this shocking? Consider your challenges and your good qualities. Then consider them in comparison to God and the standards he has for us.
6. Read 1 John 4:11-12. How does grace help you to be able to fulfill this command of Jesus? How is the Church supposed to be love incarnate to the world around us and to the people inside the Church? What are some practical ways we can do this at Forward?
7. How does God reveal Himself and His love to the world? What implication does this have for you? How has God's love been demonstrated to you recently through someone else?
8. We often do things out of a sense of duty and obligation. How does loving others as a result of God's initial love for us differ from loving others out of a sense of obligation? How have you loved out of a sense of obligation or a sense of appreciation?