

## How Will You Love?

O God, your Son Jesus is the Light on our path; strengthen us to illuminate with justice where there is racial injustice, and to enlighten with wisdom where there is misunderstanding; so that by your grace we may become people of mercy and reconciliation in the world. Amen.

### Look

We are all different. For some of us these differences are very obvious and clear, such as outward appearance. Sometimes the differences are more subtle, like what we believe or feel or think. And although there is a multitude of differences that can divide us, we often tend to gravitate to a specific difference when drawing lines.

1. Who is someone that you have a strong disagreement with but can still engage in a constructive relationship with? What do you disagree about?
2. What do you have in common with that person that you value?
3. What emotions do you associate with overcoming differences? Which do you associate with reinforcing on differences?

### Book

[John 1:29-42](#)

In this passage we witness a sort of “handing of the baton” from John to Jesus. Loudly he proclaims “Here is the Lamb of God!” It is at this point that Jesus begins gathering his disciples. These disciples were men who were hungry for something greater.

1. Describe what thoughts must have been swirling in John the Baptist’s head during this time and due to his unique vantage point.
2. What purpose, and for who, does inviting the two to “come and see” where Jesus is staying?
3. What is significant in the granting of new names by Jesus? How is this a display of love?

### Took

Beliefs are powerful things. They can empower us to do great things, or terrible things. They can set us free, or chain us from loving. Having a belief shattered can be an emotionally crippling situation. However we all share beliefs, and we all share a need for love.

1. What causes a belief to change from a positive influence to a negative influence?
2. How can we work to diminish the power of fear in those we interact with?
3. How will you show love to those that you may stand in opposition to in the coming months?