

DISCUSSION GUIDE

May 2, 2021

We are **One Church, Scattered together!** Whether you are joining us in-person or online, know we are worshipping God **together**, sharing life **together**, and loving our neighbors **together** as one church gathered in many homes!

If you are a leader, participant, or host of a small group and have questions?

Reach out to Rob and Elyse Pegggar (elyse.peggar@vcgurnee.org).

Worship in The Preaching of Scripture

Series: God, Our Light & Life

Title: How Grace Makes us Soft and Strong.

Reference: 1 John 5:1-5

Share Life Together :: Discussing the Text Most Recently Preached

1. **Read 1 John 5:1 and John 1:12-13.** If new birth is received as a gift of grace and not won as an achievement of our effort. Then grace softens us toward God because we can genuinely say, "I don't deserve you. Yet you chose me." Then, we can look to others, not as competitors in a race for grace but as companions as recipients of grace. Discuss: how have you seen grace kill a sense of entitlement before or control over God *and* superiority or inferiority amongst people.
2. **Read 1 John 5:2-3 and Matthew 11:30.** How are God's commandments *not* burdensome? How does grace not only free us *from* sin, death, and Satan, but also frees us *for* God and people. Have you experienced greater or lesser freedom while walking in God's design for your life.
3. **Read 1 John 5:4-5.** The world must be overcome. That humbles us. The world is overcome. That gives us hope. True/False. Have *you* or has *God* overcome the world? Why is this somewhat of a trick question? Discuss. Pray for one another that you would not be overcome by defeatism, cynicism or fear before the world. Pray that God would give you courage, hope, and love to face the world.

Love your Neighbors Together

You may be looking for ways to share the love of Jesus with others as an individual or as a gathering. Knowing this season provides unique opportunities to love our neighbors, we ask that you contact Pastor Brandon (brandon.smith@vcgurnee.org) for more information about current opportunities to serve.