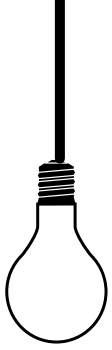
The background of the entire page is a photograph of three wooden crosses standing on a rocky, uneven terrain. The scene is set during a sunset or sunrise, with a sky filled with warm, orange, and pinkish clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow that illuminates the scene. The crosses are dark and silhouetted against the bright sky. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

Study 7  
**GOD IS LOVE**

1 John 4:7-21

“This is love:  
not that we loved God,  
but that He loved us  
and sent His Son as  
an atoning sacrifice  
for our sins.”



## Study 7

# LIVING IN LOVE

### 1 John 4:7-21



#### Starter

1. What are some ways in which our world thinks about love?



#### Read verses 7-12

2. 'Love comes from God'. What characterises this love? And how is love defined?

3. What is true of those who will not live in love? Why?

4. How does this passage help with the fact that God is unseen?



#### Read verses 13-21

5. How can believers know that they 'live in God'?

6. What lies at the heart of the apostles' testimony about the Father and the Son? And what is the right response to this testimony?

7. In what way does God's love brought to completion relate to confidence on the Day of Judgement? How is love 'made complete in us'? (See verses 12 and 17)

8. In what way are fear and love mutually exclusive here? What is the fear being spoken of?

9. How are love and obedience connected?



### **Apply**

(Answer all these questions personally, but as a group choose one or two to focus on.)

10. Look back over the whole passage and list the reasons why believers should love one another?

11. "I love Jesus! But I'm not a fan of the church!" In the light of this passage how would you respond to such a comment?

12. Do our actions ever betray that we think we love Jesus but His church isn't much of a priority? How so?

13. In what ways does God's 'initiative-taking love' challenge our thinking about who we should love and how?

14. How would you define 'The Complete Christian'?



## **Prayer Notes**