



# LISTENING IN THE SHADOWS



## Sermon Discussion Guide

March 16, 2025

*Use this discussion guide with your small group or by yourself, to dig into the text and theme of Sunday's message.*

**Key Point: We are unified in good and bad.**

**Life Sharing: (answer one)**

1. Have you ever said "You get me" to someone? What does that mean?
2. When was the first time you said, "I love you" to someone outside of your family?

**Transition / Open in prayer**

3. What are some ways that you know someone loves you?

**Life Examination:**

*READ John 17:20-26*

4. What are the ways that Jesus wants his followers to experience "oneness"?

5. What does it mean to be "in Jesus" or that Jesus is "in you"?
6. What are the outcomes of the unity of the followers of Jesus?
7. Why does Jesus call the Father "Righteous Father" in verse 25?

*READ | John 4:15-21*

8. How would John define love? How is that different from the ways the world defines love?
9. Why should we love others?
10. How does perfect love drive out fear?
11. Why is the real test of our love the way we treat other people?

**Life Application:**

12. What does unity feel like in a church? Describe a time you felt unified in a faith community.
13. What should a person do when they feel disconnected or at odds with others in their faith community?
14. When has God's love for you and/or His love through you helped someone to overcome their fear?
15. Who does God want you to love this week, maybe in a new way?
16. What are some simple ways that this love we have been given can be expressed to someone outside the family of God?

**Life Prayers:** Pray for one another. Have one person read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 substituting the word "love" with "We want to be" during your time of prayer.