**Love is the Brand**

**Week #4**

**Small Group Notes**

**Introduction:**

Ice breaker: (It seems like everyone uses apps for entertainment these days, but think back to cable tv days for a moment). Can you remember the funniest infomercial you’ve seen on tv? Have you ever stopped to watch a religious infomercial (to give money for a “miracle”)? What did you find strange about it? Tell us about it.

**Discuss:**

1. Read 1 John 4:1-3

Ask:

* **Discuss the significance of the statement, “Spiritual activity is not necessarily godly activity.” How are they similar? How are they different?**
* **Why did John put the responsibility for determining what is and what is not false teaching to all believers and not only pastors? Why is false teaching often subtle instead of blatant?**
* ***What are some other ways to test false ideas of Jesus?***
* **Can you think of false ideas that have subtly come into the church? Read John 16:13. What does this verse tell you is the Spirit’s role when confronted with false teaching?**
* **Calling out false teachers is neither fun nor popular but necessary. Could you name one (or a movement) off the top of your head that you would see as false teaching? Who and why?**
* **What should be our response when we discover false teachers? What should this look like with those that continue to listen to false teaching? Why can this be a hard conversation?**

2. Read 1 John 4:4-6

Ask:

* **Read 1 John 4:4; John 16:33. How does verse 4 comfort you? How does it encourage you?**
* **Read John 15:1-5. How does understanding what it means to abide in Christ help us to become more familiar with His voice of truth?**
* **What are the ways that God has given us to hear His voice today? Why do we try to make it more complicated than simply listening to God in moments when we don’t know what to do?**

Close: **What are some practical things you can do to discern false teaching this week without being over critical?**

**How can we be praying for one another?**