

Series: Things That Go Bump In The Night

Scripture and Background Information for August 2 - 8.

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

This week we'll be looking at **John 13:21-35**. In today's passage, we are still talking about Jesus' last evening before his death. Here, we find Jesus celebrating the Passover with his disciples. While Jesus and his disciples sit together, Jesus gives his final speech to his disciples.

Background for John 13:21-35:

During the feast, Jesus tells his disciples that one of them would betray him. Through a sign of honor (dipping the morsel for someone was a sign of the host to honor the special guest), Jesus showed them that Judas would betray him. He commands Judas to do what he needs to do. After Judas left, Jesus starts a new series of teaching. He tells the disciples about his death. Since he will leave them, he tells the disciples his final words, that they should love one another in the way Jesus loved them.

- When thinking about the text, consider the reaction of the disciples to Judas, leaving the meal. What made them wonder that he left? How did Jesus show them that he would betray Jesus? Why did Jesus tell his disciples that Judas would betray him?
- Verses 34-35 tell us about the new commandment of Christ. Christ uses himself as an example for the commandment. In the direct context, how does Jesus function as our example? What did he do before Verses 34-35 to show us how to show love? Don't forget to include last week's text to help you figure out how Jesus functions as our example.
- Judas never understood Jesus' claims. What was he missing? Is Jesus' love only morally repeatable or does it require more? The context might help you answer this question (13:20; 15:12-13).

Note: As mentioned above, our text is closely connected to last week's text. Both discussions occurred during Jesus's last evening. An awareness of the continuation will help you get the meaning of the text.

Scriptures for upcoming weeks:

August 9	John 14:15-31
August	John 15