



Part 9: The Love You Were Meant to Share 1 John 4:7-21

1. To _____ is to love others.

“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” vv7-8

“This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” vv9-11

• Love _____ and _____ !

2. To _____ is to love others.

“No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.” vv12-16

• _____ through the power of _____ which I received when _____ as my Savior.

3. To _____ is to love others.

“In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.” vv17-18

4. To _____ is to love others.

“We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.” vv19-21

Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today’s topic!

This week’s memory verse:

“This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” 1 John 4:9-11

Monday

Well after nine weeks studying First John the emphasis on love should come as no surprise to you! John uses the word 27 times in this weeks’ passage alone! Write down two things you’ve learned about love in this study:

- 1.
- 2.

Why do you think John continually ties God’s love towards you and your love towards others together?

Take a moment to write down the name(s) of someone you are struggling to love right now. How would a change of heart on your part impact that relationship? How would it impact you?

Ask God to give you the courage, hope and determination to apply what you learn about love this week.

Tuesday

Read 1 John 4:7-11. What does it mean to be born of God? How has being born of God changed your life?

How do these verses demonstrate that God's love both initiates and sacrifices?

Why do you think initiating and sacrifice are an important part of love? How have you seen the impact of that type of love in your life?

Think about the relationships in which you're struggling to demonstrate love. Write down one way you can initiate love towards that person this week.

Thank God for His sacrificial love demonstrated on the cross. Thank Him for the example He has set for you. Pray that your love for others will imitate Christ's love for you.

Wednesday

Read 1 John 4:12-16. When John talks about loving others he inevitably talks about it flowing out of a relationship with Christ and it is not optional!

When are you most tempted to withhold your love?

Write down four things that you believe about God's love for you:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

How do these things impact your love for others?

Thank God today for the four things you wrote down about God's love. Pray that you will grow in your understanding of God's amazing love for you. Pray that you'll be a willing vessel and conduit for God's love.

Thursday

Read 1 John 4:17-18. In your life when has perfect *fear* cast out love? When has perfect *love* cast out fear?

How does fear hurt love? How does this apply to the person/people that you are finding it hard to love?

Ask God today to help you relax in his love and to cast out any fears you have about His love for you. Pray that you'll be courageous in your love towards others.

Friday

Read 1 John 4:19-21. There's just no escaping this direct line between saying you love God and loving others! Recall the first time you realized God loved you. How did that impact you? What is the importance of the fact that God loved you first?

What are two specific things you will do in the next week to demonstrate love towards the people in your life?

Ask God to bring to mind the truth about God's love for you throughout the day. Ask Him to prompt you to show His love to others today.

Saturday

Take the time today to go over any devotions you may have missed and to complete your memorization of this week's extra-long verse. Pray for the ministry this weekend!