

“Understanding God’s Love”

1 John 4:7-21

Introduction

God is love. The book of 1 John is written for Christians and it discusses the basics of having faith in Christ. As in many other places in the Bible, it addresses the importance of God’s love, but it also recognizes that it is possible to be a loveless Christian.

In order to fully understand the significance of God’s love, we must also understand that love existed before mankind existed. When God had no one else to love, He loved Himself. Since God exists in a triad - as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – the bible is full of references to the intense and loving relationship He has within himself. This love fest is visible in the following scriptures:

John 5:17-23

John 17: 23-24

John 13: 31-32

Ephesians 1:4-6

John 3:16

Just as we identify ourselves with a particular race, ethnicity, or culture, God identifies Himself with love. As a matter of fact, He uses us to replicate His love over and over, and over again. When we show love, He shows love. It is a neverending cycle that bounces back and forth between us and Him to manifest His glory consistently.

Getting Started

As members of the family of God, the love we possess should be visible to others. The simple fact is this: The more we hang out with love, the more God will hang out with us. Furthermore, on the final day of judgement, we will all be judged based on our love for others.

Let’s Get Personal

- Are you known for the ways you demonstrate your love for others?
- Do you show your love for others daily, or only on special occasions?

Take the Next Step

If you want God to give you special access to His love, you must share love. What are the ways you can demonstrate love with your church family through your service to this ministry or your small group?

Renew Your Mind

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

John 3:16
