

June 23, 2019

Reflection of Love

1 John 4:7-21

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

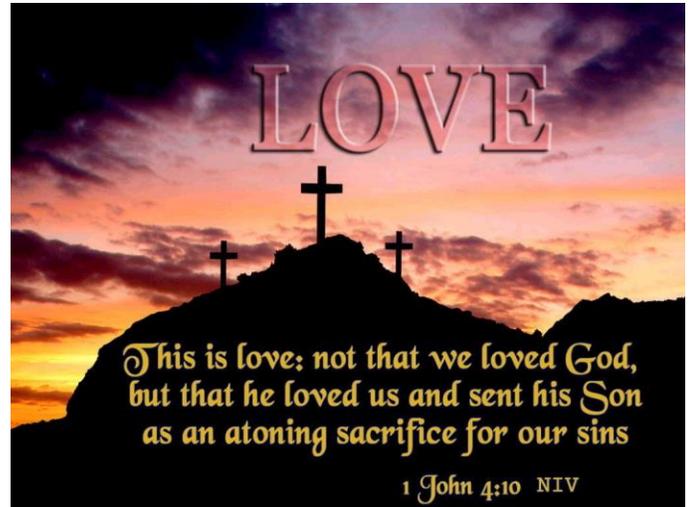
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we are looking at the end of Chapter 4 in 1 John. Loving your brother has been a key theme thought 1 John. This week in chapter 4 we will see the clearest statements yet about the love of God. God loved us first and showed us by sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. We have seen God's sacrificial love for us. Now we must consider how we are reflecting His love to those around us. This chapter tells us that God's love is made complete in us. Come join us this week as we talk about God's love for us and His love in us, and how we can be a reflection of God's love to the people in our lives.

1 John 4:7-21 (NASB)

God Is Love

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. ¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent

the Son *to be* the Savior of the world.

¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love, because He first loved us. ²⁰ If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

V **EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. How did God show His love for us?

9. How is God's love seen on earth today?

10. What does verse 12 mean when it says God's love is perfected in us?

11. How does perfect love cast out fear?

12. How do people see our love for God?

13. If we hate someone and are mean to them does it mean that we no longer love God?

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. Are there people in your life that are hard to love? How can you show them God's love?

15. How do people see God's love when you love them?

16. Do we deserve God's love? How does your answer impact your ability to love those around you?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

Sermon Notes