

God's Love and Ours - 1 John 4:7-21

Reflection Questions

A. Which one do you think is a more powerful motivator—love, fear, or hate? Why?

B. What notable figure alive today or from history used hate to motivate people?

C. When have you been motivated by love?

Scripture

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, 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 has been 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 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love Him because He first loved us. ²⁰ If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? ²¹ And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

Lesson Outline

I. Wholistic Love

II. Workings of our Love

III. Wealth of God's Love

IV. Windy Love

Key Terms

Atonement

Believers

Caring

Fear

Fellowship

Friendship

God

Hatred

Holy Spirit

Jesus Christ

Judgment

Love

Lying

Perfect(ed)

Sacrifice

Sin

World

Exploring the Text

1. What were the readers of 1 John encouraged to do? (4:7)

2. What is the relationship between loving and knowing God? (4:7-8)

3. How did God show His love? (4:9)

4. Why did God send His Son? (4:9)

5. What is love? (4:10)

6. Why should Christians love one another? (4:11)

7. What is the result of loving one another? (4:12)

8. How can believers know that they live in God and God lives in them? (4:13)

9. What did John testify concerning? (4:14)

10. What happens when we acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God? (4:15)

11. Why is love important? (4:16-17)

12. How is love made complete? (4:17)

13. What does perfect love do? Why? (4:18)

14. Why should we love? (4:19)

15. What is the relationship between loving God and loving one's brother?
(4:20-21)

Understanding the Text

16. How can we demonstrate our love for God?

17. What example has Jesus set for us to follow?

18. How should God's love motivate you to love others?

19. How do you know that God lives in you?

20. What does it mean to live in God?

21. Why is it easier to love God than other Christians?

22. When you have difficulty loving other believers, what is it that makes it difficult?

23. How can we demonstrate our love for others?

24. What are you afraid of?

25. How can we overcome our fears?

26. How does love drive out fear?

Life Application Questions

27. Who is someone that you have a difficult time getting along with that you need to ask God to help you love this week?

28. What fear will you ask God to help you overcome?

Adult Questions for LESSONMaker.