

Text: 1 John 4:7-21
Topics: Attributes of God, Love
Series: The God We Love More Than Anything

Monroe Bible Church
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Love: Often Maligned, Seldom Defined

I. Tough to Define (1 John 4:7-21)

The love of God is eternal
and reflected in God's every attribute and choice,
the giving of Self for the wellbeing of others,
without requiring worthiness or reciprocation from the recipient.

II. Tough to Live (1 John 4:7-21)

Toward God...

Toward Others:

brethren...

enemies & persecutors...

The only way to love like God is to live in His love!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. How do people wrongly define the love of God and consequently get stuck on accurately believing in God? Can you give a living example?

2. How does Paul make reference to the love of God as he tries to witness in Acts 14:16-17, and 17:24-31? (See also 1 Timothy 2:4-6 & 2 Peter 3:9)

Why might it be helpful to use Paul's reasoning like this in your witnessing?

3. From Romans 5:6-11 describe God's love extended to you. What does this description of you, and of what He did, stir up in you?

4. What does Jesus tell us in Mark 12:30 is the most important thing for us to do according to God?

Think about each word Jesus gives. Write out a practical application for each word in the description.

5. How is God's love defined in Matthew 5:38-44; and 1 John 3:14-18?

Can you give an example of when you demonstrated love like this? Can you give an example of a personal failure to demonstrate it?

6. How does John define loving God in 1 John 2:15-17 and 1 John 5:3?

Can you see yourself caught up, or tempted, in one of these misplaced loves or understanding of the Lord's commands?

How does God help one truly live in love?

7. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?