



1 John 4:7-11 [ESV]

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have 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.

If we want to love like JESUS, we have to love EVERYONE.

1 John 4:12-16 [ESV]

¹² No one has ever seen God; 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 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his 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 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Holy Spirit ENABLES us to love OTHERS.

1 John 4:17-21 [ESV]

¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

How to receive forgiveness from God:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

:: As you have been journeying through our series “All You Need Is Love”, what is something that keeps coming to mind for you?

:: What do you think God is saying to you through that?

:: Reread 1 John 4:13-16.

:: How do we know that we abide in God and He in us?

:: What should we see when we abide in God and He in us?

:: In what ways have you seen Holy Spirit at work in your life?

:: Pastor Luke said, “Abiding in Jesus is the key to loving like Jesus.” What does that mean to you?

:: What are some ways that help you stay connected to Jesus?

:: Is there anything keeping you from abiding in Him?

:: What does it look like to love one another in your life?

:: Is there someone in your life that is hard to love?

:: How are you going to show the love of Jesus to them this week?

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the English Standard Version [ESV].

Luke Friedline (@luke_friedline) August 22 & 23, 2020

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As part of our journey through the book of 1 John, we invite you to engage in a 25-day bible reading plan that leads you through all of John's writings. Go to www.bible.com or your YouVersion Bible App and search for "Writings of John". Invite a few friends from your circle and let's continue learning together!



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