



1 John 4:7-8 [NIV]

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Choosing love is always **SIMPLE**
even if it's not always **EASY**.

Matthew 22:35-40 [NIV]

³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.

³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

What we seek **FIRST** defines us **MOST**.

Matthew 6:33 [NIV]

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” - Jesus

John 15:9-12 [NIV]

⁹ “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

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:

:: Identify/Share something God has been teaching, or reteaching, you through our “All You Need Is Love” journey.

:: How are you now living differently as a result?

:: Pastor Shawn said, “Choosing love is always simple even if it’s not always easy.” What does that mean to you?

:: What are some ways choosing love can be simple? Why?

:: What are some ways choosing love may not be easy? Why?

:: How do John’s words in 1 John help us manage that tension?

:: How does Jesus seek to help us in our pursuit of love?

:: Reread John 15:9-12.

:: What is most meaningful for you in these 4 verses?

:: What are practical ways that we can daily choose to love like Jesus?

:: As we wrap up our journey in 1 John, what is one way Jesus is inviting you to love like Him in the days ahead?

:: Pick 1 thing you can do to love like Jesus, and invite a friend to pray as you do.

*“We cannot pray
in love and live
in hate and still
think we are
worshipping
God.”
– A.W. Tozer*

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Shawn Cossin (@shawncossin) – September 5 & 6, 2020

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**FREE
TO
LIVE**

We are Free to Live in Jesus! Join us as we celebrate that at our next live outdoor Baptism—6:30pm, Wednesday, September 23rd at our BridgePointe location (1 Montgomery Dr, Moline, IL). No need to register to attend; however, if you’re ready to take your next step in Baptism, text “CONNECT” to 309-250-2007 to find out more.



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