

Scripture References

John 12:25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

2 Cor 2:5-11 But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent — not to be too severe. This punishment which was inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, so that, on the contrary, you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow. Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. NKJV

Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

“The faith once delivered to the saints makes demands on us. It has the power and the right to change us and our world. It challenges our deeply held beliefs. It rewrites our deepest concepts of who we are and what’s true. It demands our lives change, be remade after the life of our Savior, and redefined by the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.” Decision Magazine June 2019

Authentic Jesus, A Study in 1 John

Aug 04, 2019

Fred Hennes, Sermon #643, “You Can’t Fake Love” (1 John 4:7-5:2)

When the _____ says “love” it means a great interest and pleasure in something or someone.

When the _____ mentions “love” it means either:

To be a friend to; or affectionate feelings (_____)

Sacrificial esteem or regard (_____)

Love is _____ the needs of another, by sacrificing your own needs at a personal _____, apart from any thought of _____.

Love’s _____: Love comes from God (v. 7)

Love’s _____: Everyone who loves has been born of God (v. 7)

Love’s _____: God sent his one and only Son into the world that we may live through him (v. 9)

Love’s _____: God sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (v. 10)

Love’s _____: We also ought to love one another (v. 11)

Love’s _____: Perfect love drives out fear (v. 18)

Love’s _____: We love because he first loved us (v. 19)

Love’s _____: By loving God and carrying out his commands (v. 5:2)

Life Group Ice-Breaker Question

1. Who is the first person who truly loved you?

Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. List the differences between worldly love and biblical love. Which form of love is most often displayed in your life?
4. Do you agree that one form of God's love is forgiveness? Share your thoughts about how unforgiveness may be one of Satan's greatest tools against Christians (see 2 Cor 2:5-11).
5. What do you fear most in your relationship with God? For instance, that He doesn't love you? That He can't forgive you? That you're not saved? That He is going to punish you? List whatever comes to mind.

6. Have you ever chosen to love another child of God simply because you loved God? You may not have had natural affection toward the person but because you loved God you loved the person. Jot down as much as you can about the situation without being offensive.

Application Questions & Prayer

7. Write out your own definition of biblical love. Explain why you feel it is an accurate description.
8. What are some practical ways that you can love the other people in your life or in your church?
9. Who are you having a hard time loving right now? Take a moment to ask God to give you the love that comes from Him so you can give it away.