

Sermon: LOVE

1 John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

LOVE

Love! Something we all want to feel!

God is love! We were created in His image!

We have capacity and a deep need for love!

When we take a look at our deep need for love, we are really looking at our deep need for _____!

UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL LOVE:

1. God loves us, we are to love _____.

1 John 4:8

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Proverbs 19:8

To acquire wisdom is to love yourself; people who cherish understanding will prosper.

We were created to _____; it is the _____ state.

Luke 12:6-7

6 “What is the price of five sparrows—two copper coins? Yet God does not forget a single one of them. 7 And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

Point 1 continued:

James 1:14-15

14 Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. 15 These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Mark 12:30-31

30 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. 31 And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.

UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL LOVE:

2. God loves us, we are to love _____.

1 John 4:7, 11

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Philippians 2:3-4

3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

Ephesians 4:26-27

26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

Proverbs 21:2

People may be right in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their heart.

Matthew 6:14-15

14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

We want others to change _____ we change. However, the change we _____ must _____ begin _____ us.

Luke 23:34a

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL LOVE:

3. God loves us, we are to love _____.

1 John 4:9-10

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.

Love expressed to us in a _____ and _____ way links to our heart.

1 John 4:12-16

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.

Jude 1:21

keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

John 15:9-11

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. 11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL LOVE:

4. God loves us, when we know that, we can _____.

1 John 4:17-19

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.

Romans 8:37

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Conclusion:

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 _____

Reflection:

1. Is God's love ruling your heart?
2. It seems it is the only way to have contentment in this life.