

Study Guide for March 12, 2000. Series: GOD. Message #10 - The God of LOVE.

Memorize: **Because God is love. . . He is unconditionally committed to my well-being.**

I John 4:7-12: “Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”

1. Was there a time you were around a group of Christians and were amazed at the love they had for one another? Describe it.

2. LOVE - It's nature. The word the apostle John uses for “love” is a translation of the Greek word *agape*. Use a bible dictionary or some other resource to come up with a definition of this term.

3. LOVE - The evidence of genuine spiritual life. In John's first epistle, he writes to equip the believers to recognize what is genuine and reject what is false. One of these “tests” is LOVE. Note what John says about LOVE and how it validates true belief in the following passages.
 - A. I John 2:7-11:

 - B. I John 3:11-18:

 - C. I John 4:7-12:

4. LOVE - The rule and the reason. What specific reasons does John give for the command to love?
 - A. I John 4:7-8:

 - B. I John 4:9-11:

 - C. I John 4:12:

5. LOVE - Part of God's character. What do the following passages teach us about God's character?
 - A. John 4:24:
 - B. Heb. 12:29:
 - C. I John 1:5:
 - D. I John 4:8,16:

How can we hold all these descriptions together so that we think rightly about God?

6. Is there someone you sense God is calling you to love more sincerely? Pray to that end.