

Sermon Supplement from April 28

God Is Love, Live Like It | 1 John 4:7-12

Warm Up

- “*Love is the word which perfumes the entire letter*” Charles Spurgeon
- Review 1 John 2:7-11 and 1 John 3:11-18 and summarize the teaching of each on biblical love.
- What are some points or ideas that stood out to you from this Sunday’s sermon?

Dig In

Read 1 John 4:7-8 | God is the Source of True Love

- “*Love is from God*” – What are some implications of the fact that God is the source of true love? Why does this matter to you?
- “*God is Love*” – How is this different from saying, “God is loving”? If love is part of God’s essential nature/character, how does this govern all of His activities and actions?
- How do these verses combat false teachings such as “Love is God”, “Love is Love”, “A loving God would never judge”, and “A loving God would never allow evil, suffering or hell.”

Read 1 John 4:9-10 | Jesus is the Revelation of True Love

- According to these verses, what does Jesus reveal about the love of God?
- In what ways does verse 9 elaborate on the simple truth of John 3:16?
- Why is the order of love in verse 10 important? What does Romans 5:8 have to say about this?
- “*Propitiation*” means to satisfy wrath. What are the implications of the fact that God loved us enough to provide the satisfaction for His own wrath?
- How do the truths of these verses protect you from pretending or performing for God’s love?

Read 1 John 4:11-12 | We Respond in True Love

- Why is it helpful to remember that God initiated, and we respond?
- How does verse 11 show both the obligation and the motivation of true love?
- According to verse 12, how is the love of God “perfected” in us? In the sermon, this was referred to as completing the circle of true love. What do you think about that concept.

Wrap Up

- What are one or two key truths that stood out to you from this study?
- What are some specific ways that you can complete the circle of love this week?

Next Week’s Sermon: 1 John 4:13-17

- *Read the text several times in multiple translations.*
- *Read the text in the context of the verses around it.*
- *Read study Bible notes or a commentary on the passage.*
- *Write down what you think is the big idea of the passage.*
- *Write down a few personal applications.*