

# Sermon Supplement from May 19

## What Love Does | 1 John 4:18-21

### Warm Up

- Why is the phrase “Love is a verb” so popular even in secular culture?
- Read 1 John 4:7-21 and talk about the context of this week’s passage.

### Dig In

#### *Love Expels Fear (verse 18)*

- What kind of fear is John talking about here? What causes this fear?
- How does perfect love drive out this fear?
- If I don’t have to fear, it frees me to \_\_\_\_\_.

#### *Love Ignites Love (verse 19)*

- How does God’s love for us ignite the fire of our love?
- What are some “improper ignitors” or wrong motives for love?
- If I am struggling with love, how might these passages help: 1 John 4:10-11 and Romans 5:8?

#### *Love Exposes Liars (verse 20)*

- What are some of the active and passive ways Christians show hate toward one another? Why is this so damaging to the Church?
- Why do you think John takes this so seriously? (see also 1 John 3:10 & 15)
- Why is it easier to say we love God than to demonstrate love to people?
- Why is a person’s love for others a real test of their love for God?

#### *Love Keeps Commandments (verse 21)*

- Why is it appropriate for God to use a “*Because I said so*” in this verse?
- How do the following passages inform our understanding of this verse: John 13:34; 14:15; 15:12, 17; Matthew 22:37-39.

### Wrap Up

- In what ways do you see God’s love at work in your heart?
- What are thoughts from this lesson that have challenged or encouraged you?
- What action steps do you need to take in light of what you have learned?

#### *Next Week’s Sermon: 1 John 5:1-5*

- *Read the text several times, preferably 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.*