



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Series- Marked by Love Part 6

Bible Reading- 1 John 4:8-21

Date- Sunday 15th October 2017

Loving is an Essential

7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

(1 John 4:7-9 NLT)

1. Why should we love?

a. We are imitators and mirrors of God (7-8)

b. We are to show God to those around us (11-12)

c. He first loved us (19)

d. God told us to (20-21)

2. What is love? (9-10)

3. Loving = Assurance (13-18)

A. Text based Questions

1. Read 1 John 4:7-12. What reasons does John give for Christians to love one another? What statements does John make about the nature of God in these verses?
2. Read 1 John 4:13-16. How does this section of John's letter speak to assurance of salvation?
3. Read 1 John 4:16-18. How does John say that God's love is made complete in us? What do you think he means by this phrase?
4. Read 1 John 4:19-21. Put these verses in your own words. In one clear, crisp sentence what is John saying in this section?

Meditation & Application

5. This section of John's letter (vs 8-21), is really calling Christians to be "marked by love." What are some immediate applications that you can see here and how are they tied to the work and character of God?
6. Given what you have read here- how could you pray this section over: A. your own life? B. the life of two other believers you know? C. The community of Riverstone Baptist church? Spend time praying about this now?
7. What one thing could you do to be marked by love in the coming week? Think about someone you could encourage, someone you could bless and serve and do not merely "listen to the word," do love practically as a demonstration and completion of the love God has for you.
8. Are there any relationships that you currently are a part of, were love like this is challenging? Spend time asking God for grace to love even the unlovely- and look for an opportunity to be the answer to your own prayers.

Prayer- Dear Heavenly Father- We praise you, because you are love and we ask that your love might multiply and be made complete in us. Help us to look to you in order that we might gain strength to live the life of love you call us to live. Thanks for giving us your Spirit too- and help us to love with the strength that he provides. In Jesus' Name- Amen.