

The Greatest Gift: God's Love

December 22, 2024 | 1 John 4:9-11



THE GREATEST GIFT

GOD'S LOVE

Observations from 1 John 4:9-11:

What is happening in these verses?

God's Love Revealed in Christ (v. 9):

- God's love became visible and accessible through Jesus.
- Manifest - This means that God's love wasn't just spoken but demonstrated tangibly.
- Ref: John 3:16, Galatians 4:4-5

God's Love Came for All People (v. 10):

- God's love originates with Him, not with us.
- Key Phrase: "*Propitiation for our sins*" - Jesus took the punishment we deserved, reconciling us to God.
- Ref: Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:4-5

Our Response to God's Love is to Love (v. 11):

- Because God loved us first, we are called to love others.
- Ref: Matthew 22:37-39, John 13:34

Ontario Community Church: **Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.**

John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **believes** has eternal life"

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Lessons from 1 John 4:9-11:

What can we learn (interpret) from these verses?

- **God's love Begins with Christ:** (Ref: Romans 5:8)
 - *Love begins with God's character, not our actions.*
 - **God's love is shown in Christ:** (Ref: 2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - *Jesus is the ultimate expression of love.*
 - Propitiation – Jesus took our place, allowing for God's justice and restoring our relationship through Him.
 - **God's love is to be shown through us:** (Ref: John 13:34)
 - *God's love compels us to love others.*
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Application from 1 John 4:9-11:

How can I apply / live out these verses?

- **Love Sacrificially**
 - *Give of yourself without expecting anything in return.*
 - Ref: John 15:13
- **Love Forgivingly**
 - *Forgive others as God has forgiven you.*
 - Ref: Ephesians 4:32
- **Love Compassionately**
 - *Show kindness and grace, even when undeserved.*
 - Ref: Colossians 3:12



Reflection Question:

- Who in your life needs to experience God's love through you this week?
 - Consider ways to show sacrificial, forgiving, and compassionate love in your daily life.
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