

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

PROOF | **What's Love Got To Do With It?** | 1 John 4:7-21

November 25, 2018 - Dave Bechtel

QUICK REVIEW

1. What stood out to you regarding Sunday's sermon? Did anything come up this Thanksgiving that made you think of the message or give you a way to apply it?

MIXER

2. Do you have a rescue story or have you seen a rescue that made an impression on you?

MY STORY

3. Describe a time when the Holy Spirit empowered you to love someone who was unlovable in your own strength.
4. Can you think of a time when you saw someone demonstrate sacrificial love either toward you or someone else?

DIGGING DEEPER

5. Read 1 John 4:7-21. Every time "love" is used in this passage it is the Greek word agape, meaning benevolent, sacrificial, willful love. Contrast this with a different Greek word for love: phileo. This means friendship based on common interests. Why is this distinction important?
6. Agape generally has an outflow. Is it possible to have "agape" love that is merely a feeling and involves little willingness to take action? Why or why not?
7. Are we commanded to "like" everyone by affirming them in their actions? Are we commanded to love (agape) others unconditionally? Give reasons for your answers.
8. Review 1 John 4:9-10. This passage provides perhaps the ultimate example of love. Describe the various aspects of this particular expression of love.
9. Read 1 John 4:16-18. How does perfect love drive out fear? Have you experienced this?

TAKING IT HOME (APPLICATION)

10. 1 John 4:7-21 teaches that the mark of a Christian is love. Identify one or two people to whom you plan to demonstrate agape love this week. What are some ways that you can demonstrate **that love**?

For additional study material, go to bthl.ch/ggl

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT

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- I. In His **love**, God **sent** His Son to **rescue** us. Matt 5:10-12; 7:22-23;
Jn 16:18; 1 Tim 3:12;
Lk 10:38-42; 1 Jn 1:3-7
 - A. To give us **life**. (We were **dead**.) Eph 2:1; Jn 10:10;
Gen 2:16-17
 - B. To **pay** for our **sins**. (We were in **debt**.) Col 2:13-14
- II. Our **part** in **fellowshipping** with God: **abide** in His **love**. Rev 3:20; Jn 1:12;
1 Thess 2:13
 - A. We come to **know** the **love** that God has for us. Rom 12:2; Col 3:13;
Ps 1:2
 - B. We come to **believe** the **love** that God has for us. Heb 11:1
- III. **Soaking** in His love **changes** us. Es 2:12
 - A. We become **loving** ourselves.
 - B. We **confess** Him publically.
 - C. We have **confidence**. (No **fear**) Gen 5:22-24
 - D. Brotherly **love flows** out of us. 1 Jn 1:9