

Why Love?

In our passage today, John continues to focus on the topic of love. Steve mentioned on Sunday that some have likened the structure of 1 John to a spiral staircase that gets wider as it goes down. Each time he circles back to the topic of love he adds more depth and perspective. And so as we return to this topic yet again, may we hear what God has for us.

Read 1 John 4:13-21

1. If this passage was the only portion of the Bible that you have ever read, what kinds of things would you know from these verses?
2. What does John say about abiding?
3. In verse 16, John says that they had “come to know and to believe the love God has” for them. What does it take to truly come to know and believe the love that God has for us?
4. Verses 17-18 tell us that Christians no longer need to fear God’s punishment for sin because we are recipients of God’s love. Why do you think some Christians still lack confidence of their salvation and standing with God, even when they have experienced his love and grace in the past?
5. What is the significance of verse 19 for our lives?

6. What is the relationship between loving God and one's brother or sister in Christ (vv. 20-21)?

7. As Steve mentioned on Sunday, the topic of love is one that John continues to come back to. As you consider all that you are learning and being reminded of concerning love for God and love for one another, what do you sense is the main thing that God is doing in your life? What is He saying to you about love?