

Title: "The Practicality of Godly Love" / 1 John 4:1-16

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Big Idea: God's love for us is the model and motivation for showing love back to God and one another.

What is John saying by connecting Love-to-God?

1) Godly love is a continuing love.

(1 John 4:1-6 / 1 John 4:7-8 / Romans 13:8 / 1 Peter 1:22 / John 15:12)

2) Godly love is a confirming love. (1 John 4:9-10 / Romans 5:8)

3) Godly love is a completing love. (1 John 4:11-12)

4) Godly love is a confidence-building love. (1 John 4:13-16 / John 13:35)

Nurturing an abiding love in Christ helps me develop a delightful, serving love for others.

Study/Discussion Question for 1 John 4:1-16

- What are some of the 'daily tests' you either take or give that help you determine what is authentic and what is fake?**
- What is the difference between knowing about God and knowing God personally through His love? What test does John apply for knowing the difference?**
- Try to define propitiation simply. How does knowing this word motivate believers to appreciate their salvation all the more?**
- Rea 1 John 4:12. In what way does our love for other believers illustrate who God is, even though no one has ever visibly seen God?**
- The word "abide" is very important to John. What are some practical examples of how believers can abide in God daily?**