

David Cauble	Authentic Love 1 John 4:7-21	10/04/26
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The God who _____ us through His Son now _____ in us by His Spirit, and His _____ changes how we love one another.

1. What does love reveal about our spiritual life? 1 John 4:7-8

If we _____ to the God who loves, His _____ will begin to shape our lives.

John keeps returning to love because _____ to the God who is love must become _____ in how we treat one another.

2. Who teaches us what love means? 1 John 4:9-11

The cross did not _____ God to love us.

God's love _____ the cross.

John keeps returning to love because our _____ of love needs to be shaped again and again by what God has done through His Son.

3. How does our love express God's presence? 1 John 4:12-16

Christian _____ is rooted in Christian _____.

God's love comes to us _____ His Son, works _____ us by His Spirit, and becomes _____ through us in our care for others.

John keeps returning to love because he wants the _____ God's presence to become _____ in our lives together.

4. How does love give assurance and test our claims? 1 John 4:17-21

Christ's saving work provides the _____.

Our changing lives provide _____ of His work in us.

Our _____ of the person we can see bears on our _____ about the God we cannot see.

John keeps returning to love because he wants us to have _____ grounded in Christ and a _____ of faith that agrees with our lives.

Small Group Discussion

Read 1 John 4:7-21

1. *How is the supernatural love of God different from the superficial idea of love that we so often hold?*
2. *Why does love have its origin in God? Can unregenerate people truly love? How is the love shown by those born of God different?*
3. *How would you define propitiation to a group of your peers? What does it tell us about God? About man? Where do we see these themes throughout the rest of Scripture?*
4. *What would Christian love look like if Christ's example was truly followed? How can you follow the example of love he displayed on the cross?*
5. *Explain the connection between identity and action when it comes to love? Why must identity come first?*
6. *How does abiding in the love of God give us confidence when we face judgment? How does it reassure us for the future?*
7. *Why does John combine loving God with loving your neighbor? Which is more important?*

** Questions taken from Christ-Centered Exposition,
Exalting Jesus in 1, 2, & 3 John.*