



## Christian Life Fellowship

Becoming fully devoted followers of Christ



### What is Christian Love?

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#### Introduction:

[I John 4:7-21](#)

This Thursday is Valentine's Day. We are focused on expressions of love. Many of us give gifts to our sweethearts or those who are close to us. We pick out cards for those we are fond of in order to express our sentiments. In our text this morning, I am sharing some key thoughts that will help us to focus on the meaning of Christian love.

#### I. Love comes from God.

We may think that love is from us, but love comes through us from God. This thought may catch you unaware, but everyone who loves has been born of God.

#### II. God demonstrated His love.

We have moved into the season of lent. It is a time that we consider the passion of our Lord. The extreme way that Jesus was called upon to demonstrate His love and God's love for us was powerful. God loves us incredibly. God cares about us and the undeniable proof of this is the cost which was associated with His love. He sent His one and only Son into the world – *the world's most costly valentine*.

#### III. This is love.

Not that we loved God, but that God loved us and sent Jesus to be an atoning sacrifice, for our sin, lavish, unselfish, not proud. **I Cor. 13:4-8 – Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not**

**boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.**

#### IV. Demonstrating love for one another.

We should love one another. The example of love that Jesus gave is so that we could fashion our love after His. This is the way we are to love one another.

No one has seen God, but if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is made complete in us. We are imperfect. We have flaws. We have shortsightedness and are only made perfect and complete in His love.

There is reassurance that God's life is in us because of His Holy Spirit. **I John 4:16- ...God is love and whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like Him.** When we stand before God that is the only thing that

is completion for us is the love of God. In the world we are like Him. That is one of His purposes for us so that we may be complete, alive, and examples of Himself.

There is no fear in Christian love. We don't have to be afraid of standing before Him on the day of judgment, or standing before our peers here in the world. Perfect love casts out all fear.

**Conclusion:**

We love because He first loved us. We cannot love God and hate our brother, or mother, or father, or sister, or son or daughter. We have this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.