

## The Impact of Perfect Love

1 John 4:7-19

How has God's love changed your life?

How it changed me.

1. It makes us feel valuable.
2. It gives us confidence that who we are is o.k.
3. It changes the lives of those around us.

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## Light of the World (vs 7)

- ◆ Christ's Ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:16-20)
- ◆ Our faith should be seen in our love (John 13:34-35)
- ◆ When we experience Christ in our own lives we can't help but to love others.

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## Are you Experiencing the Life Changing Love of God? (vs 8)

- ◆ If we are not loving others then we have not come to know the love of God ourselves.
- ◆ Why?
  - ◆ Are you worthy?
  - ◆ What's your love experience?

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## The Love of the Gospel (vs 9)

- ◆ Restatement of John 3:16
- ◆ What would be the hardest thing for you to lose?
- ◆ What would you give to free someone on death row?
- ◆ Dead in our transgressions (Ephesians 2:1-3)
- ◆ We were on death row.

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## Perfect love is free (vs 9-10)

- ◆ Perfect love is not based on actions or worthiness.
- ◆ Saved by love/grace (Ephesians 2:4-9)
- ◆ Perfect love loves people before they deserve it.

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## The Completion of God's Love (vs 11-12)

- ◆ God's love becomes complete when we share the very love that changed us.
- ◆ The return of the prodigal son (pg 119)
- ◆ Romania

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God Living in Us (vs 13-15)

- ◆ We know that God lives in us because he has given us of his Spirit.
- ◆ We know we have the spirit if we confess Jesus as our savior (1 Corinthians 12:3)
- ◆ God lives in us

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Relying on God's Love (vs 16a)

- ◆ God's love is our foundation
- ◆ Our Ground (Ephesians 3:14-19)
- ◆ Agronomy and Canoeing
- ◆ God's love lifts us up when everything else is pulling us down or it keeps us down when everything is trying to pull us up.

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God is love (vs 16b)

- ◆ John repeats himself a lot because he believes that what he is saying is significant and maybe he understands that we are hard headed
- ◆ Love is not just an aspect of God, it's who he is.
- ◆ 1 Corinthians 13 describes God.
- ◆ Does God love me...when I sin, when I deny Him, etc? God is love

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## Confidence in Judgment (vs 17)

- ◆ The completion of love in us enables us to be confident that we are going to heaven
- ◆ 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Spirit is our guarantee
- ◆ 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - Life's troubles are momentary and the end is great

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## No Fear in Love, YEAH! (vs 18)

- ◆ If only I could grasp hold of this
  - ◆ Do you get defensive when accused
  - ◆ Do you hide secrets so not to be judged
  - ◆ Do you cover up mistakes to avoid punishment

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## No Fear in Love, YEAH! (vs 18)

- ◆ God's love not dependent on actions
- ◆ Saved by grace not by works
- ◆ Love in this world often based on actions
  - ◆ Parents
  - ◆ Spouses

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No Fear in Love, YEAH! (vs 18)

- ◆ Who's word are we listening to?
- ◆ God's love does not cease
- ◆ Romans 8:35-39

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Wrap it Up (vs 19-21)

- ◆ The proof is in the puddin
- ◆ Do you avoid fellow believers?
- ◆ Is your love for God evident in your love for others?
- ◆ Are you building others up or tearing them down?
- ◆ Do you go out of your way to make others feel valued?

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Discussion Questions

- ◆ In what ways have you not yet fully accepted God's love for you?
- ◆ Share a time when you experienced imperfect love. How did it affect you?
- ◆ In what ways do you struggle to show God's perfect love to others?
- ◆ Are you living a fear free life?

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