

Love is Abiding in God

In 1 John 4:7-21, the word “love” is mentioned 27 times, always referring to “agape” love - the highest form characterized by selflessness, sacrifice, and unconditional care for others, without expecting anything in return. Alongside, “God” is mentioned 21 times, while “abide” appears 6 times, meaning to “stay, continue, dwell, endure, and remain steadfast.” The main idea is clear: LOVE IS ABIDING IN GOD. Genuine love is impossible without abiding in God. Love God and others goes beyond theory and is more than just words; it’s an experience that is tangible, visible, and real!

Source of Love (1 John 4:7-10)

True love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows Him. If we don’t love, are we truly connected to God? Two essential tests for Christians are: Do we believe in Jesus? Do we love like Him? These questions lead to self-reflection. Those lacking love don’t truly know God. This isn’t to make us doubt our salvation but to confirm our relationship with Christ!

One of the most powerful statements in the Bible is “God is love”. Love has always existed, even before the world began (John 17:24). The relationship within the Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—is defined by perfect love. God didn’t create humanity out of necessity but out of His boundless love. We long for love because we’re made in God’s image. Love is at the core of His nature.

God demonstrated His love through Jesus who is the perfect solution for our sins, embodying God’s holiness with His love. God, being loving and gracious, provided a way for us to have a relationship with Him. Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross exemplifies this incredible love.

Show God’s Love (1 John 4:11-12, 19)

God has shown us complete love, and now He wants us to show that same love to others. We love others because He loved us first. To love like God, we need to stay connected to Him and experience His love ourselves. Even though we can’t see God, His love and presence are

felt through us. As Colin Smith says, “God’s love comes to you, and it comes through you.” We weren’t meant to keep God’s love to ourselves. It becomes perfect when we let it flow to us and through us, completing its purpose. Many people around us need love. Will we let God’s love fill us and flow out to them?

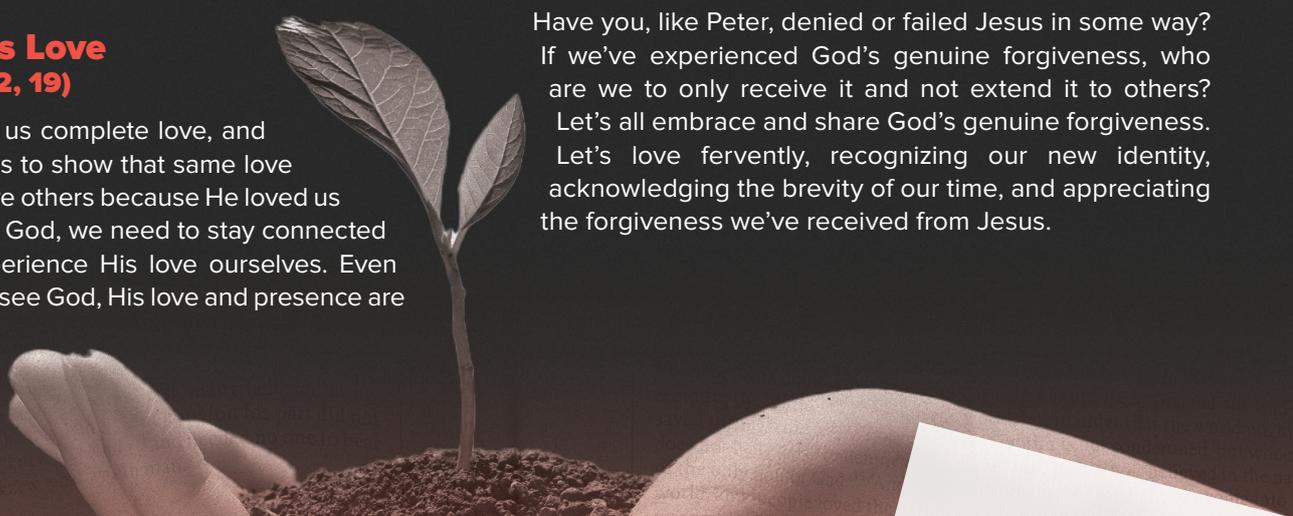
Stay in God’s Love (1 John 4:13-18, 20-21)

Staying in God’s love means being continuously connected in His presence and being confident through His Spirit. When we abide by God, we can be assured of a solid relationship with Him. Love isn’t just a feeling; it’s a continuous bond with God that showcases His nature in our lives. Our lives should give off the fragrance of God’s love, making His presence known to others.

This assurance of God’s love gives us confidence and dispels fear. When we truly understand how much God loves us, we don’t need to fear rejection or not being enough. Instead, we can live boldly knowing we’re loved by Him no matter what. Being in Christ changes who we are (1 John 3:1). As God’s children, we’re free from fear and insecurity, able to live out God’s plan for us. This change leads us to want to love God, please Him, and love others.

John lived to be one of the oldest apostles, writing this letter in his later years. Having personally witnessed the Jesus he spoke of he testifies to the necessity of Jesus in our lives. Will you confess Jesus as your Savior and Lord? Without Jesus, we cannot love the way He loves us. God is love, and to love like God, we must abide in Him. Let’s nurture our relationships with God and people (family, community groups, etc.) because God designed us for community and mutual support.

Have you, like Peter, denied or failed Jesus in some way? If we’ve experienced God’s genuine forgiveness, who are we to only receive it and not extend it to others? Let’s all embrace and share God’s genuine forgiveness. Let’s love fervently, recognizing our new identity, acknowledging the brevity of our time, and appreciating the forgiveness we’ve received from Jesus.



Last Week’s Memory Verse

We love, because He first loved us.
1 JOHN 4:19

Discuss This Message

What is my understanding now of God and love?
How will this impact the way I relate to God and others?
To who and how can I show God’s love this week?

DOWNLOAD THIS CHRONICLE ONLINE!

ccf.org.ph/chronicle/

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY’S 4WS EVERY MONDAY!

ccf.org.ph/4ws/

Jesus died on the cross...
Wanna know why?

Visit the Welcome Center!



step into the community

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

Become a Transformed Woman Session 6: Reflect on Jesus for Encouragement

with Claire de Vera

March 21, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

ccfwomen2women

CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY

SINGLES

Special Session

March 22, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

B1GMinistry

beonewithgod

NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Love Detectives

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

ONSITE: G/F CCF Center for ages 4-12

LIVESTREAM: YouTube & Facebook

(ccfnxtgen) for ages 4 to 12

ZOOM: for ages 7-12, message us to sign-up

Reach us via [facebook.com/ccfnxtgen](https://www.facebook.com/ccfnxtgen)

learn more about our faith

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

Join GLC's NEW Training Cycle this 2024!

GLC Level 1

Book 1: One by One

ONSITE: March 17, Sunday
10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 20, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

ONSITE: March 17, Sunday
10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: March 20, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 2

Book 6: Basic Doctrines

ONSITE: March 17, Sunday
1:00 PM, Room 3A

ZOOM: March 21, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3

Module 2: Biblical Counseling

ONSITE: March 17, Sunday,
1:00 PM, Room 4A

ZOOM: March 21, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Register here: bit.ly/GLCTraining2024

Other Events

How to Start a Dgroup Workshop and GLC in Dgroups

ONSITE: March 17, Sunday
11:30 AM, Room 4A

ZOOM: March 19, Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Register here:

bit.ly/HowToStartADgroupWorkshop

GLC Training is also available on the following platforms:

GLC Online (SELF-PACED)

Be equipped at your own time, own pace, and own place.

Enroll now: glc.ccf.org.ph/online/

Visit glc.ccf.org.ph for more info on GLC trainings and schedules.

step up and volunteer

There's no better way to serve God than to serve His people!

NXTGEN ccfnextgen

BIG beonewithgod

Across ccfacrossministries

Host Team go.ccf.org.ph/HTvolunteer

GLC bit.ly/GLCvolunteers2024

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. – 1 John 5:11-13

services at the CCF Center

saturday nights

5:00 PM

sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,
and 3:00 PM

online livestream

ccf.org.ph ccfmain ccfmainTV
9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](https://www.ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.