

It All Comes Down To Love

1 John 4:7-21

One of the themes of 1 John is that we are to love one another. In fact, John mentions it three times (2:7-11; 3:11-18; 4:7-21). In chapter 4, John emphasizes the fact that we must be connected to God in order to love others. If we don't demonstrate love, people have a right to question whether or not we really know God.

Because God loves us and lives in us, we are to love one another

☐ We are to love others because God loves us (7-10)

- God is love and the only source of love
 - God love us so much he sent Jesus to die for our sins
 - When we love others, it identifies us as followers of Jesus
- **Implication:** If we don't love others, we really do not know God

☐ We are to love others because God lives in us (11-16)

- The unseen God reveals himself through the visible love of his followers
 - When we put our trust in Christ, God comes to live in us through the Holy Spirit
- **Implication:** If we don't love others, God is not in our life

☐ We are to love others because God's love is perfected with us (17-21)

- Full grown love produces confidence
 - God took the initiative to love us and we responded to him
 - We are to love the members of God's family
- **Implication:** If we don't love others, we are lying about our relationship with God and have reason to fear the Day of Judgment

How can you demonstrate love this week?