

“God Gave Love”

Pastor Jon Hori

1 John 4:7-12

December 14, 2008

Main Idea: We love others because God first loved us through the giving of his Son.

I. The Request: Love One Another (v. 7-8; 11)

A. God loved you sacrificially (v. 9)

B. God loved you first (v. 10)

II. The Reason: You are the Beloved (v. 7, 11)

A. God loves you (v. 11)

B. You will see it (love) when you believe it (you are the beloved)

III. The Result: God’s Love is Manifested in Us (v. 12)

A. People will believe it when they see it

B. Example and opportunity

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Digging Deeper

1. What do the three “God is...” statements (1 Jn. 1:5; 4:8 Jn. 4:24) tell us about God’s essence? Why should this give us more confidence to trust Him?
2. What does “propitiation” mean? How does it’s meaning in 1 John 4:10, enhance the meaning of God’s love for us?
3. What makes us forget or deny that we are God’s “beloved”? Why should being God’s beloved compel us to love others?

Living it Out

1. How will you manifest God’s love in practical ways this holiday season? How will specifically you love those in your church family?
2. How can you use the “love” kit provided to express God’s love in a small but significant way to someone you weren’t originally planning to give to?

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