

Love as Our Story

1 John 4:7-21

Remain, 9

Dr. Ted Wueste

Love one another. vv. 7-8

"beloved, let us love one another"

We are enabled to love God because of our new life. v.7

"whoever loves has been born of God"

We are empowered to love as we know Him. v. 8

"anyone who does not love does not know God"

We know love as we ... vv. 9-11

stare at Jesus and His sacrifice for us. v.9

"God sent His only Son into the world"

seek loving others in the same way. v. 10-11

"if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another"

We experience God when love is matured in us. vv. 12-16

"if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us"

Love is perfected as we adopt God's story.

We experience peace when love is matured in us. vv. 17-18

"by this is love perfected ... so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment"

Love is perfected as we let go of fear.

We love Him because He pursued us. vv. 19-21

"We love because he first loved us"

If we don't love one another, we are not able to love God. v.20

"for he who does not love his brother ... cannot love God"

Loving God and loving one another are inseparable realities. v. 21

"whoever loves God must also love his brother"

APPLICATION ... what story gets the way of loving others? How can you begin to adopt love as your dominant story?

Quote: "God's love is not perfected in a Christian whose heart is simply a reservoir in which to receive it, but only in one whose heart furnishes an aqueduct to convey it to others." Zane Hodges