

Life Together: Loving One Another  
I John 3:1 – 4:21

We Learn to Love One Another by Building on This Foundation: “God Is Love” – I Jo 4:7-8

- He is Life for others – Jo 3:16; Ro 5:8-10
  - ...which explains a number of things:
    - = creation (Gen 1:26-31)... freedom (Ga 5:1)... salvation (Jo 3:16)... need for love (I Jo 4:7-8)
- All love starts with God’s love – I Jo 4:19; Deut 7:7-8
  - ...which He demonstrates in the gift of His Son – I Jo 4:9-10,14
    - = by which we see the “extent” and the “intent” of God’s love – I Jo 4:9,16

Divine Love Is the Sphere of All Human Transformation – I Jo 4:12,17,18

- “Perfected”: brought to a destined end, the ultimate goal – Jo 19:30
  - ...a journey made up of two basic components:
    - = abiding in/immersed in the love of God for us – I Jo 4:18; I Jo 3:3
    - = a willingness to love whomever God sends our way – I Jo 4:17,21
- We love for one primary reason: “because He first loved us” – I Jo 4:19
  - ...His loving character that was “imported” into us – I Jo 4:16 – must now be “exported” out of us – I Jo 3:16

Neither Sin Nor the Devil Can Use the Love of God for Their Purposes – I Jo 3:4-10

- Jesus Christ came “to take away sins” – I Jo 3:5
  - ...sinning is incompatible with His character – Col 3:17
- Jesus Christ came “to destroy the works of the devil” – I Jo 3:8
  - ...the devil’s works are incongruent with the works of Christ – I Jo 3:7
- Only when we refuse to abide in Christ can sin or Satan have their way – I Jo 3:6,9,10
  - ...examples: indifference (I Jo 3:17)... hatefulness (I Jo 3:15)... murderousness (I Jo 3:15)  
(all expressions of self absorption; all works of the devil)
- God is lovingly, actively divesting us of all that is out of step with His righteous love – I Jo 3:14
  - ...by pressing us into His Life, His Love for others - I Jo 3:16

We May Freely Choose to Get “In Step” with the Intent and Action of God to:

- Be loved into being – I Jo 4:17-19
- Love others into being – I Jo 4:21; 3:16
- The “witnesses” of His Spirit are upon loving “in deed and in truth” – I Jo 3:18
  - ...the abating of our fears – I Jo 4:18; Jo 14:1
  - ...the pleasure/joy of the Lord – I Jo 1:4; Jo 15:11; Heb 12:2
  - ...a sense of growing confidence – I Jo 3:21-22; 4:17; Jo 8:22
  - ...a return to the utter simplicity of it all – I Jo 3:23; 4:21; Matt 22:36-40
- “Live your Life, love with Your love, have Your way...in , through, and as me in this moment...  
...for sake of others... to your glory... so it may be “on earth as it is in heaven”!