

REAL HOPE

WEEK 3 | LOVE PEOPLE | 1 JOHN 4:7-21

Inspection: What Does It Say?

- Why does John say we are to love one another?
- How did God get to know what it is like to be a human?
- How does the love of God reach its intended end in a person's life?
- How does perfect love affect fear?
- What command has God given in verse 21?

Observation: What Does It Mean?

- In what way is the love of God said to be the object of the Christian's faith?
- How is the practice of loving evidence of knowing God?
- What is the relationship of obedience to righteousness?
- What is the relationship of righteousness to love?
- Who is my brother and sister in verses 20, 21?

Life Application: What Does It Mean For Me?

- Choose to love people even if they offend you.
- Memorize the last stanza of the hymn, The Love of God Is Greater Far.
- Make a list of specific steps you will take this week to love your brothers and sisters.
- Send a note of thanks to someone in your past that demonstrated the love of God to you.
- Make a personal application for each of the definitions in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a.

Meditation: What Does God Say?

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| Deuteronomy 15:7-8 | Psalms 41:1 | Psalms 82:2-4 | Proverbs 14:31 |
| Proverbs 17:17 | Isaiah 1:17 | Micah 6:8 | Zechariah 7:9 |

Supplication: What Can We Meditate?

The Love Of God Is Greater Far

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell.
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

When hoary time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race—the saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.

O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure—the saints' and angels' song.

Frederick Martin Lehman, 1868-1953