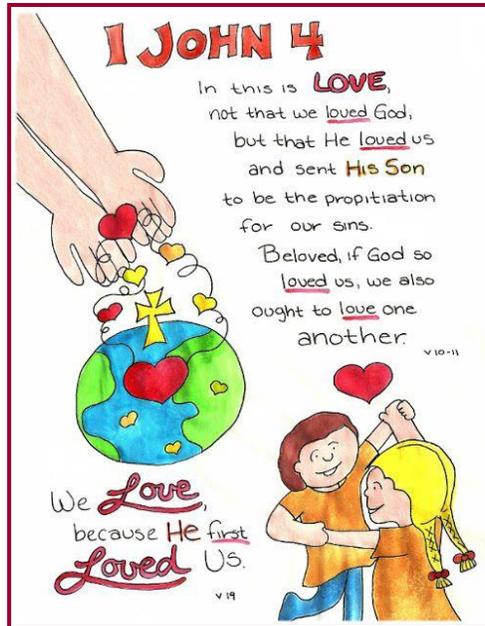


SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017
THEME – SURVEYING THE MAGNITUDE OF GOD’S LOVE
UNIT I – THE FOUNDATION OF GOD’S LOVE

“Love’s Source”



Sunday School Lesson No. I – March 5, 2017

Lesson Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III - Pastor-Teacher

- Lesson Text:** I John 4:7-21 (NLT)
- Lesson Required Reading:** I John 4:1-21 (NLT)
- Lesson Motto Text:** I John 4:11 (NLT), *“Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.”*
- Reliable Resources:** Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living by UMI; I John (H. A. Ironside); Standard Lesson Commentary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Dr. John MacArthur emphasizes three things that John the Apostle continually proclaims in his epistle to avoid being deceived by false teachers: “The need for obedience to the Word, the need to exercise biblical love and the need to have a proper view of Jesus Christ.” Our focus during the month of March is centered on exemplifying Christ’s love! No apostle has said more about this kind of love than John. He understood that the community of Christ must live in the “**Love Zone.**” Of course, this is the Agapé (unconditional, divine) love practiced by our Lord, Who is the Source. If a person proclaims to be a Christian and has not this kind of love, his belief or profession is futile and in vain. This week we will focus on our Lord Jesus Christ as “**Love’s Source!**”

Where does love originate? What is love’s source? According to John in I John 4:8 and 16, “***God is love***” and I declare that all of God’s offspring are easily identified by His DNA of love! “***He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love... And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.***” According to Precepts for Living, “I John reminds us that God is love, and those who abide in love have God’s love perfected in them.”

Anticipated Power Points:

- **Love’s Source is Sovereign. I John 4:7-8 (NLT)**
- **Love’s Source is Sacrificial. I John 4:9-10 (NLT)**
- **Love’s Source Renders Security. I John 4:12-19 (NLT)**
- **Love’s Source Leads the Redeemed to Share. I John 4:11, 20-21 (NLT)**

LESSON OUTLINE

“LOVE’S SOURCE”

I. Love’s Source is Sovereign. I John 4:7-8 (NLT)

God Himself is the very originator and source of love’s embodiment. He is the dictionary definition of love! Love is His very nature! So it is only expected that those who are His offspring should emulate His very nature!

II. Love’s Source is Sacrificial. I John 4:9-10 (NLT)

It has been said, “One can give without loving, but it is impossible to love without giving.” Thus, God the Source of Love demonstrated this love by His unspeakable gift... Jesus Christ, who became our sinless sacrifice through love! God the Sovereign source of love knew that sinful humanity was destined for damnation. (Romans 3:10, 23: *“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one...For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”*) And He gave the antidote for humanity’s salvation, as recorded in Romans 5:6-11, *“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”* Ephesians 2:4-10; Hebrews 10:5-10: *Jesus Christ is our propitiation* (atoning sacrifice for sin.) What a loving price Jesus paid!

III. Love’s Source Renders Security. I John 4:12-19 (NLT)

A. The security of His Spirit. vss. 12-13

The Holy Spirit is the sign of God’s security in us. John 14:26-27, *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”* (Also read John 16:13-14; Ephesians 1:13-14)

B. The security of His Son. vss. 14-16

John testifies of his personal knowledge of Jesus and declares that all in Christ’s community have this testimony within them! Romans 10:9-10, *“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

C. The security of love’s strength. vss. 17-19

The security of love’s strength is demonstrated in the fact that one lives in expectation of Christ’s return without fear! (II Corinthians 5:1-13; I John 3:1-3)

IV. Love’s Source Leads the Redeemed to Share. I John 4:11, 20-21 (NLT)

When we have experienced the true love of God, we must without question **share it, impart it, and reflect it** in all our doings!

CLOSING

The Source of Christ’s Love should lead His followers to become pandemic in their practice of this love!



Bibleway Missionary Baptist Church, New Orleans, LA

Little Bethel Baptist Church, Amite City, LA

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 19768, New Orleans, LA 70179

Phone: (504) 486-7876 Email: bible32@bellsouth.net

Website: www.thestudyhour.com

TV Broadcast: WHNO TV 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.



LOOKING AHEAD: March 12, 2017 Ephesians 2:1-10

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.