

Intro Verse: Ephesians 3:18-20

REVIEW:

WEEK 1: Hope

WEEK 2: PEACE

WEEK 3: JOY

WEEK 4: LOVE

GOD LOVES:

John 3:16

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

1 John 4:9

'God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

- He showed Mary and Joseph love through the Christmas story.

GOD'S LOVE IS:

- Deep, wide, long, and high

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

- Cast out fear (1 John 4:18).
- God's love leads him to give, God's love gives.

WE LOVE BECAUSE:

1 John 4:7-11,19

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. '19 'We love each other because he loved us first.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

'If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave

everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

- Those who love him will obey him (John 14:15).
- Loving God means obeying his commands (1 John 5:3-4).
- Do you find yourself with a lack of love? (Luke 7:36-50).

TRUST IN HIS LOVE:

1 John 4:16

We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

- Do you know and trust his love?
- We can trust him even when life hits hard.
- Mary and Joseph were hit hard.

Romans 8:35-37

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

Revelation 3:20

"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you in this week's message, and why?
2. Read Romans 8:35-37.
 - Share a time when life hit hard for you.
 - Did you doubt God's love?
3. What goes through your mind thinking about how we are called to love because we have been loved?
4. Read 1 John 4:16.
 - What stands out to you in this passage?
 - What does it mean to put your trust in God's love?
5. This Christmas, what does it look like to love and serve the people around you the way God has called you?

