

# God is Love

1 John 4:7-21

# 1 John 4:7-12

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

# Evidence of God's love

## 1. The Cross of Christ

- Our Invisible God made himself visible through the cross of Christ
- God first loved us so that we might be able to love Him

## 2. Believer's love for one another

- Alongside the cross of Christ—how Christians love one another is one of the ways in which God's love can be seen.
- “It is true, as has been said, that the church exists for those who are not yet members, but it is also true that the love among her members should be one of her most powerful magnets.” –David Jackman

# Evidence of God's love

I'd rather see a sermon  
than hear one any day;  
I'd rather one should walk with me  
than merely tell the way.  
The eye's a better pupil  
and more willing than the ear,  
Fine counsel is confusing,  
but example's always clear;  
And the best of all preachers  
are the men who live their creeds,  
For to see good put in action  
is what everybody needs.  
-Edgar Guest

# 1 John 4:13-16a

<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

# 1 John 4:16b-18

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.<sup>17</sup> This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.<sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

# 1 John 4:19-21

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.