

1st John

Love Takes The First Step:

If you want to know how God expects us to love others,
just take a look at how God loves us.

1 John 4:7-21

FAMILY VALUES: We are...

1 John 4:7-10 Psalm 139 Ephesians 1:5 Romans 8:14-16
Galatians 4:6 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Colossians 1:15-17
John 1:1-4

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FAMILY DUTIES: We have to...

1 John 4:11-16

Understand how _____.
1 John 3:1 John 1:12 Romans 8:38-39 Ephesians 3:14-19
Romans 5:8

Love those who _____.
1 John 2:3-6 4:20-21 John 13:35 15:12 Matthew 5:23-24

FAMILY BENEFITS: We get to...

1 John 4:17-21

Have confidence in _____.
Romans 8:17 1 John 3:28 Hebrews 4:16
Hebrews 10:15-25

Come to Dad _____.
Romans 8:15 Ephesians 3:12 Genesis 3:8 1 Peter 2:17
Hebrews 4:16

#10 The Holy Spirit Question:

Is the Holy Spirit changing me from the inside out?

1 John 4:13

This week we heard how God has taken the first step to love us. Was there a certain verse, statement or point from this week's teaching that particularly caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

1. Can you remember one of the first times you recognized that God loves you unconditionally?

2. When it comes to Family Duties, as mentioned in this week's teaching, which do you think comes easier for you? ... understanding how Dad sees me or ... loving those who Dad has adopted

3. This week we heard that one of the benefits of being in God's family is that we need not fear God's coming judgment because of His love for us. Yet, as you look through Scripture you can see also that the "fear of God" is an essential piece to a healthy relationship with Him. What do the following verses reveal about the fear of God and the role it has in our lives?

Exodus 20:18-20

Psalm 111:10

Proverbs 8:13

Isaiah 33:5-6

How would you explain what it means to have a healthy fear of God to a co-worker or a friend?

4. Balancing a healthy fear of God while still being confident to come before Him can be a bit difficult to understand and

know how to put into practice. Looking at how another person handles it often helps. As you read David's prayer in Psalm 86, jot down how he describes God and what he requests of God.

How might David's perspective and response to God in this Psalm help balance a healthy fear of God and the confidence to come before Him?

5. Satan would love to keep us from having the confidence of moving toward God. How does **Romans 5:1-5** help us remain confident and experience God's love?

Which of the following strategies might the enemy use to keep us from experiencing the love of God we're given through the Holy Spirit?

- * Life is just too hard ("woe is me" syndrome)
- * I can't be that vulnerable with God, I'm not sure if He will accept me
- * A hurt or wound from others * Other

6. Looking back at this week's teaching and study is there anything that comes to mind about God that you need to fear less? ... fear more?

7. Is there anything specific you would like prayer for that you sense the Holy Spirit is working on to change you from the inside out?