



BIBLE STUDY 5

CHAPTER 4: WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE SOMEBODY

SCRIPTURE LESSON: I JOHN 4:7-11

OBJECTIVE: To focus on your true love to people

Human relationships are greatly enhanced when we learn to speak the other person's love language.

KEY CONCEPTS

1. **LOVE TANK** – The place where love is stored and the place where people draw from to have their emotional needs met.

Facts about the Love Tank:

- a. Everyone has a love tank.
- b. It is your responsibility to fill another's love tank. There is something within our nature that desires to be loved by another.
- c. Relationships are designed to meet the need for intimacy and love.

Facts about Loving God:

- a. God fills your love tank.
- b. God desires for you to return the love.
- c. God desires for you to love other people, John 13:35 & I Cor. 13:13

2. **LOVE LANGUAGE** – The way to express love to another person and to God.

Facts about Love Languages:

- a. Everybody speaks a love language
- b. Of the five love languages, one speaks more deeply to us emotionally than the other four.
- c. When someone speaks your primary love language, you are drawn to that person because he or she is meeting your basic need to feel loved.
- d. If a person does not speak your language, then you will wonder whether or not that person really loves you and whether the person understands you.
- e. Read example on p. 22 about Mother and Daughter relationships.



Study in the Book of I John

The Languages:

1. Words of Affirmation- Words express how you feel about another person
2. Quality Time- Giving someone your undivided attention
3. Gifts – Thinking of someone and giving them something
4. Acts of Service- Doing something that you know the other person would like for you to do.
5. Physical Touch – Expressing love in hugs, kisses, handshakes, backrubs

LESSON IDEAS

I John 4:7-11

To Love Someone Means

I. Love is Responsible, vs. 7

A. Let us LOVE one another, vs. 7

To love means to execute responsibility. To be responsible means to be trustworthy, reliable, dependable, and willing to be accountable.

People that truly love, do not have a problem with love, because they are responsible people.

B. Love is from God. Who is God?

1. The Creator – **Elohim**, the strong Creator God – Genesis 1:1-2
2. Lord God Most High – **Jehovah El Elyon**, exalted position – Genesis 14:22
3. The Righteous – God’s nature is right – I John 3:7

C. Everyone who loves is born of God and “knows God”

Knows God

John helps us to understand who Christ is and His nature

1. God is spirit – John 4:24 – God is not flesh and blood.
2. God is light – I John 1:5 – Meaning God is Holy. God is not darkness because God cannot sin.
3. God is love – God defines love and God is light, therefore love is holy.

To know God is to know where you came from – Genesis 1:26-27

It Informs us that we are made in the image of God. Why would God make human beings in His image if He didn’t love us?

Study in the Book of I John

Therefore, much of what is called love in our modern-day society is not love.

QUESTION: Consider two people, both experienced pain in their lifetime. One person feels loved by God; the other feels empty and not loved by God. Why is it that some people know they are experiencing the love of God, and the other feels like God is distant and does not care about them?

Love is a two-way street. Love requires both a lover and a responder. Why is it that all of God's creatures do not feel His love, if God is love? The reason could be that people are looking for love in the wrong direction.

Love cannot be influenced by cultural standards. Love is a matter of the heart, not rituals or religion. God's love is experienced when we speak God's love language.

Language of Words Affirmation

Language of Physical Touch

Language of Receiving Gifts

Language of Acts of Service

Language of Quality Time

D. The one who does not love does not know God, vs. 2

This is an irresponsible person. Responsible people would want to know God and have a relationship with God.

Love is a matter of "will."

EXAMPLE: A man learned that his spouse's love language was Acts of Service. Acts of Service includes doing chores around the house. The man responded, "if washing the dishes, vacuuming floors, and taking out the trash makes her feel loved, you can forget that."

The man's problem was not the knowledge of love, it was his "will" to love his wife.

The significant note about the person who does not love also reveals, that the person:

- Lives selfishly
- Banks affection for themselves
- Manipulates and uses others



Study in the Book of I John

- Elevates themselves
- Shows no real concern and care for people
- Is not really ministering and helping people

II. Love is Demonstrated, vs. 9 -10

A. Jesus' love was manifested in us

Read: John 9:3 – What does it say Jesus did?

God's love is about salvation. God sent Jesus to be the propitiation for our sins, I John 2:1. Propitiation is the sacrifice or the covering to pay for the penalty of sin. Jesus was holy and perfect and the ideal Man to be the satisfaction for sins.

Propitiation means coverage: Romans 3:25, Hebrews 2:17

B. If God loved us, we also ought to love one another, vs. 11

QUESTION: What does this say about how you should show love?
