

Nothing to Fear, Nothing to Prove Love No Matter What 1 John 4:7-21

1. God is **love**. Period.

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." (4:8)

"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." (4:16)

- God's **holiness** is an expression of His love.
- God's **justice** is an expression of His love.
- God's **righteousness** is an expression of His love.

2. Love is always the **right response**.

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God..." (4:7-8)

"Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (4:11)

"We love because he first loved us. 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. And he has given us this command: Anyone

*who loves God must also love their brother and sister.”
(4:19-21)*

Reacting vs. Responding

You ARE responsible for your **second** thought and your **first** action.

“We take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 10:5)

3. Love **no matter** what

“No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.” (4:12)

You have Nothing to **Fear** and Nothing to **Prove**.

“By THIS everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” (John 13:35).