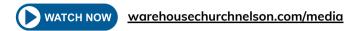


Unconditional Love 1 John 4:7-21



Unconditional love is from our God in Heaven. This agape love is not naturally in us. It was revealed to us as our Father in love gave us Jesus. Jesus died for us when we were yet sinners. Jesus has the unconditional love of the Father. We love because He first loved us with this love. The Holy Spirit desires to instill in us this love of the Father and of the Son. As we will see, John really emphasizes this in these verses. It is foundational to our faith and the life of His church. We pray for unity here at TWC. Unconditional love will preserve unity in this body of believers.

- **4:7** This is agape love. This is a command to love one another. God is our example. This love is birthed in us when we are born again. We are sinners saved by grace. We did not come to God with love. We came with sin. He gave us great love in return. **Romans 5:1-6.**
- **8** If you have no love at all in your heart for your brothers and sisters and those in the world, John says you do not know God. God is love!
- **9** When we are born again, this agape love is manifested in us. It is seen in us as we relate to others. It is visible and it can be felt. How did that happen? Out of love, God gave us His only Son. With this love poured out within our hearts, we live through Jesus. **John 13:35.**
- **10** We did not know or love God unconditionally until He loved us first. Propitiation means Jesus died as a sacrificial gift for our sins to appease the wrath of God.
- **11** Beloved means dearly loved. We say we believe in God. We say we love God. Well then, because of this great giving love, we should love one another. This is how we follow Him.
- **12** No human being has seen God in His fulness. But if we love unconditionally, His love is in us and is perfected or completed in us.
- 13 We can know that He is in us, and we are in Him. The Holy Spirit confirms to us that the love of God is in us and gives us this agape love. Of His Spirit.
- **14** He gave us of His Spirit. We did behold Jesus. And we know and testify that God with love sent Jesus to be the Savior of the world. **1 John 1:1, Rom. 8:16**
- **15** When does this unconditional love start in us? When we confess and believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Again, God abides in us, and we abide in Him. This is the epitome of our lives on earth. It does not get any higher than this. That is the ultimate relationship.





Unconditional Love 1 John 4:7-21



16 By these things we know and believe in this love. God is love and we abide together.

17 Love is completed in us. This love relationship gives us confidence or even boldness in the day of judgement. In agape love we become like God as we are here on earth. This is one reason John is saying and emphasizing this so strongly. No Fear of Death!

18 There is no fear of death in this perfect, completed love. Fear of death involves the judgement of God. But if we abide in Him and He abides in us in this love, poured out within our hearts by the Holy Spirit, we have no fear of God. He is love!

19 We love because He first loved us. It was from Him first. Is God Good?

20 They are lying! We can know them, speak with them, talk with them, and touch them. That is a relationship. Sometime during this relationship, the love of God should be in your heart and actions towards them. How much easier it is to say I love God.

21 It is a command from the Lord that we love one another unconditionally. Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 22:37, John 13:34, 1 John 3:11, 1 Cor. 13:7

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Is the love of God and Jesus your example of love?
- Do you have this unconditional love of God for others?
- Is this love visible in your life?
- Is this agape love completed in you?
- Are you afraid of the day of judgment?
- Do you hate anyone?

