



Finding Christmas - Searching for Love

What do you love most about Christmas? Share your favorite Christmas memory, favorite Christmas Movie, favorite Christmas gift that you have given someone else.

Love is central to Christmas because Love is central to who God is.

A fundamental aspect of the nature of God is that God is love, and as we are made in God's image, we are made in love, for love, to love.

Read: Genesis 1:26-27, 1 John 4:7-8

What does it even mean that "God is love?" If you had to explain that concept to someone who is completely new in faith, what would you say?

God made us in love, for love.

Read: Isaiah 43:6-7

Being made by God, in God's image, for God's glory, could sound pretty self serving to some people. How is being made for God's glory ultimately about God's love for us?

Love is being brought into being in a way that will grant you everlasting joy. And that joy is found in knowing and admiring and making much of the most beautiful person in the universe, namely, Jesus Christ, who is God. So, yes, God made us in order that he might love us. But "love" there is not primarily his getting satisfaction from us, but rather giving us the privilege of getting satisfaction from him.

-John Piper

Can love really be love if there is no self denial in favor of the one we love?

Read:1 John 4:9-12, Matthew 16:24-26

Love demands action. God's love for us necessitated delivering us from slavery, giving His Word, and sending us a Savior. He took action on our behalf to rescue us from sin that we have no ability to overcome. In light of that, how do you answer this question:

What does Love require of me?

Love First - is the example Jesus showed us, and the life we are called to live. In your own words, what does living a "Love First" life look like?

What is God calling you to do with His love this Christmas?

We are called to receive God's love.

-How do you still need to open yourself to God's love in your life?

We are called to be in love with God.

-What does this look like on a daily basis?

We are called to share God's love with others.

-Who can we pray for tonight that needs the love of God in their lives?

-Who can you tell about the good news of Jesus?