

Abide: A Study in 1 John Love's Flow

## **Sermon Notes**

**Big Idea:** What's the difference between knowing about God and knowing God? What changes take place in your life when you have a genuine relationship with God? How can you be assured that your relationship with God is real? Let's discover what it means to abide.

## Can you know that you really know God? Abide: to stay or remain.

## Four Keys to Knowing God:

- 1) Embrace the Facts about Jesus.
- 2) Experience Friendship with Jesus.
- 3) Enjoy Fellowship with Christians.
- 4) Evidence of Fruitfulness because of Jesus.

Love's Flow: 1 John 4:7-21 (ESV)

- 1) Love Flows from <u>God</u> He's the <u>Source</u>.
  - Devotion to Jesus is the <u>place</u> where the Human Heart is most Satisfied.
- 2) Love Flows through Jesus At the Cross.
- 3) Love Flows through us to Each Other by the Holy Spirit.

What is Love? It's **Selfless** and **Sacrificial**.

4) Love Flows through us to <u>The World</u> - to be a <u>Witness</u>.

If you don't want others to know God, you may not really know God.

What's Flowing Through Your Life: Love or <u>Fear</u>?

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- **2)** Read 1 John 4:7-10. Have you ever looked to someone other than God to be your primary source for Love? Has someone ever looked to you? How did that go?
- **3)** Read 1 John 4:11-13. Has God ever given you the ability to love others in a way that was truly costly and generous? Do others love you this way? Share an example.
- **4)** Read 1 John 4:14-17. Have you ever awakened someone's need for God simply by the way you displayed God's love to them? Do you desire that other's know God's love? Explain.
- **5)** Read 1 John 18-21. How can you tell if you're motivated by the love of God verses fear of punishment from God?