

Love Your Neighbor
The Origin of Love, 1 John 4
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Chuck Foreman, Teaching/Missions Pastor

Sometimes it's easier to love my neighbor...

We all need to receive love, but we all need help from outside ourselves to give love consistently. We need God and his love in us loving others through us for us.

Big Idea: John knows that Jesus was the means by which God, the source of love, showed his own love to us. It's important that people know that Jesus was *God in the flesh*, giving himself and revealing himself in love to mankind. If he wasn't, then love is without origin other than our own imagination and there is no basis, no reason for us to love each other. God's act of love in Christ is the original act of love toward which all history looked with yearning and from which all history now flows with relief and hope.

GOD's Story – The Origin of Love, 1 John 4

1. Of Spirits, Prophets and Viewpoints... (4:1-6)

2. God *is* Love—Love comes from him. (4:7-21)

- Since God loves us, we must love each other. (7-11)
- The invisible God becomes visible when we love. (12-16)
- Being like Jesus in this world, removes fear of judgment. (17-18)
- We love because he first loved us. (19-21)
 - John 13:34-35

Why does Jesus call this a "new command?"

- Romans 13:8-10

Love shows the world that God is indeed here, not just *with us*—now he is *in us*.
Is he in you?

Right On!