

# Advent: Love

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## SERMON NOTES

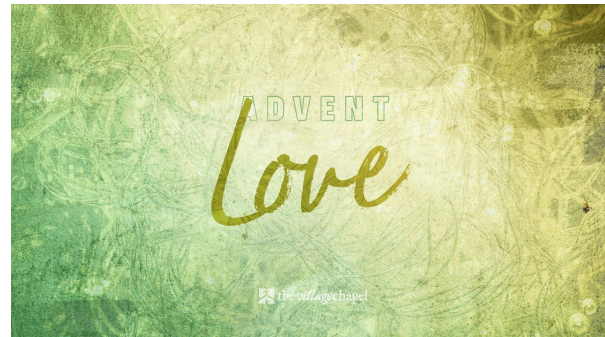
### Advent Love

1 John 4:7-21

“Advent” - arrival or appearance

### TVC's foci for Advent 2020

- Advent Love
- Advent Joy
- Advent Hope
- Advent Peace



### Repeating words in 1 John

- God - 41x PLUS all the personal pronouns
- Know - 32 x
- Love - 26x

**There is a real God who wants you to know He really loves you!**

### The love of God for us in Christ is...

1. Surprising
2. Mysterious
3. Contagious
4. Compelling

*“You can never take God by surprise. You can never anticipate him. He always makes the first move. He is always there ‘in the beginning.’ Before man existed, God acted. Before man stirs himself to seek God, God has sought man. In the Bible we do not see man groping after God; we see God reaching after man.”*

- John Stott, *Basic Christianity*

*“Jesus is mysterious not just because of what we don’t know about him, but because of what we do know about him.”*

- John Ortberg, *Who is This Man?*

*"We love until we are betrayed. Jesus continued to the cross despite betrayal. We love until we are forsaken. Jesus loved through forsakenness. We love up to a limit. Jesus loves to the end."*  
- Dane Ortlund, *Gentle and Lowly*

*"He came to this world and became a man in order to spread to other men the kind of life He has - by what I call 'good infection.' Every Christian is to become a little Christ. The whole purpose of becoming a Christian is simply nothing else."*  
- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

*"Something ultimate has entered our world, something or Someone that calls us to attention, calls us out of our daily preoccupations and our routine points of view. That is what this season with its special biblical readings is designed to reveal."*  
- Fleming Rutledge, *Advent: The Once and Future Coming of Jesus Christ*

*"Advent creates new men and women. Look up, you whose eyes are fixed on this earth, you who are captivated by the events and changes on the surface of this earth. Look up, you who turned away from heaven to this ground because you had become disillusioned. Look up, you whose eyes are laden with tears, you who mourn the loss of all that the earth has snatched away. Look up, you who cannot lift your eyes because you are so laden with guilt. 'Look up, your redemption is drawing near.'"*  
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *A Testament to Freedom: The Essential Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

*"I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*  
- *Romans 8:38-39*