

***Evidence for Assurance
Compassion Toward Believers
1 John 4:7-12***

Today we are continuing with the SIXTH of these signs...

“COMPASSION TOWARD BELIEVERS”

→ ***Pic – Evidence for Assurance - Compassion***



1 John 5:13 (ESV) — *I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.*

ONE THING

God's love through a believer SAYS and SHOWS, I am ON your side and BY your side.

Love is not a sentimental, squidgy, emotional word. It is not an Oprah group hug word. It is more than a description of how you feel. “Love” is a word that involves your emotions,

but more than that the Biblical concept of agapē is a love that is unconditional, a love that seeks the highest good for the one who is loved, a love of total commitment.

God's love for us is motivated by who he is, not by who we are.

1 John 4:7–12 (ESV) — *7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

1. EXPECT God's Love THROUGH You

1 John 4:7–8 (ESV) — *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

If God's Love is not flowing through you then it is very possible God's Love is not in you!

1 John 4:20–21 (ESV) — *If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has*

not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Loving others is not a choice based upon the actions of other people, but rather a choice to obey or disobey.

Jesus gave us the command to love one another.

John 15:12 (ESV) — This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

It is not optional!!!

God's love through a believer says and shows, I am on your side and by your side.

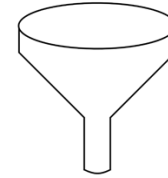
1. EXPECT God's Love THROUGH You

2. EMBRACE God's Love FOR You

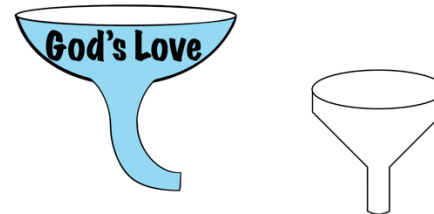
1 John 4:9–10 (ESV) — In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

God's love is motivated by who He is and not by who we are!

→ Pic - Empty



→ Pic - Separated



John 3:16 (ESV) — For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:8 (ESV) — God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

→ Pic - Embraced



Romans 10:13 (ESV) — For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

God’s love through a believer says and shows, I am on your side and by your side.

1. EXPECT God’s Love THROUGH You

2. EMBRACE God’s Love FOR You

3. EXPERIENCE God’s Love FOR You

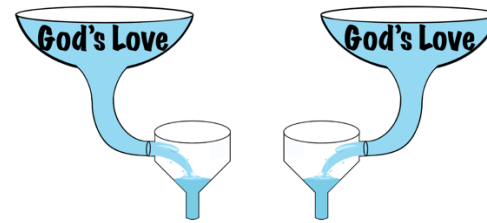
1 John 4:11 (ESV) — Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

The word, “ought” means, “an obligations based upon some moral or legal requirement.”

In other words... based upon God’s unconditional never-failing, never ending love for us, we are obliged to be the same toward others...

Here’s what happens in the typical Church among believers

→ Pic - Experienced



It’s wonderful to EXPERIENCE God’s Love together!

But it is even better when we EXPERIENCE God’s Love between one another!

THIS is what Jesus was talking about...

John 13:34–35 (ESV) — A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

THIS is what John is talking about...

1 John 3:16–18 (ESV) — By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

THIS is what Peter is talking about...

1 Peter 1:22 (ESV) — Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart

THIS is what Paul is talking about...

Galatians 5:14 (ESV) — For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

THIS is what God’s Spirit is teaching you...

1 Thessalonians 4:9 (ESV) — Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another,

God’s love through a believer says and shows, I am on your side and by your side.

1. EXPECT God’s Love THROUGH You

2. EMBRACE God’s Love FOR You

3. EXPERIENCE God’s Love FOR You

4. EXPRESS God’s Love THROUGH You

1 John 4:12 (ESV) — No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

What does it mean for God’s Love to be PERFECTED in us?

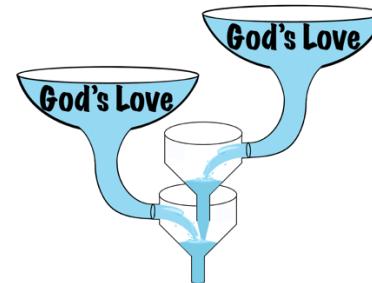
This doesn’t mean we somehow reach perfection...

Instead, it means FULFILLMENT, COMPLETION...

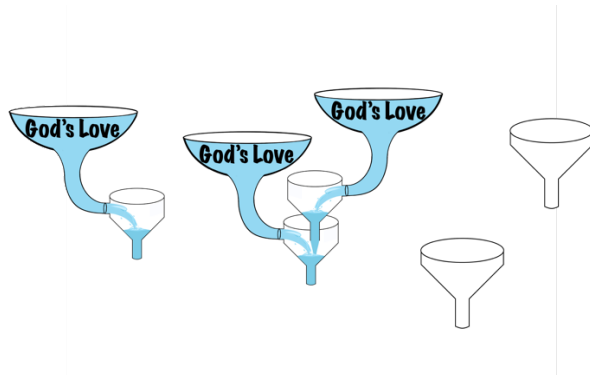
As we lay our lives down the result will be an other-centered love.

1 Corinthians 13:4–7 (ESV) — 4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant 5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

→ Pic - Expressed



→ Pic - Overflowing



God's love through a believer says and shows, I am on your side and by your side.

What does His completed/perfected love within us result in?

→ Others will know you belong to Jesus

John 13:35 (ESV) — By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

→ God's love expressed covers sins

Proverbs 10:12 (ESV) — Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

1 Peter 4:8 (ESV) — Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

→ God's love expressed looks like Jesus!

John 13:34b (ESV) — ...Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

**Evidence for Assurance
Compassion toward Believers
1 John 4:7-12**

God's love through a believer _____ and _____, I am _____
your side and _____ your side.

1. _____ God's Love _____ You

2. _____ God's Love _____ You

3. _____ God's Love _____ You

4. _____ God's Love _____ You