

Series: Dear John

## Loving Like Jesus

*1 John 4:7-17*

March 15, 2020

John gives three tests. (chapter 2)

- Moral test (2:3-6)
- Social test (2:7-11)
- Doctrinal test (2:18-27)

*<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.*

*<sup>8</sup> The one who does not love does not know God, because God is*

*love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live*

*through him. <sup>10</sup> Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but*

*that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for*

*our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, if God loved us in this way, we also*

*must love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God. If we love*

*one another, God remains in us and his love is made complete in*

*us. <sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us:*

*He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and we testify*

*that the Father has sent his Son as the world's Savior.*

*<sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God—God remains*

*in him and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. <sup>17</sup> In this, love is made complete with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment, because as he is, so also are we in this world.*

How does Jesus love us?

**1. He loves us with a selfless love. (vs. 9)**

*<sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him. (vs. 9)*

**How do we build bridges between other people?**

**Step # 1—God accepts me. [Grace]**

G.R.A.C.E.—God's Riches At Christ's Expense.

**Step # 2—I accept God's acceptance of me. [Faith]**

**Step # 3—I accept me. [Peace]**

**Step # 4—I can accept you. [Love]**

**Step # 5—You are free to accept me. [Fellowship]**

**2. He loves us with a sacrificial love. (vs. 10)**

*<sup>10</sup> Love consists in this: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. (vs. 10)*

**3. He loves us with a serving love. (John 13:3-4)**

**4. He loves us with a sharing love. (vss. 11-17)**

*No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is made complete in us. (vs. 12)*