

**The Gift of Love  
Love Came Down at Christmas  
The Gifts of Christmas Part 2  
December 18, 2022  
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New Song Community Church**

**Text: Luke Chapter 2:1-7 (NLT)**

**A. The story of Christmas is really all about the most magnificent demonstration of love that the universe has ever seen.**

1. The place where Jesus was born is an integral part of the Christmas story.
2. God's love in sending Jesus, is the one love that changes everything.
3. Christmas then...is really the story of God's love.
  - i. True Love is more than words...its always backed up by action.

**B. God's Love Defined.**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)**

1. Is unconditional.
  - i. Understand that the cost of having to be right all the time is too costly.
  - ii. Are not people who take offense easily.
  - iii. Don't hold a **grudge**.
  - iv. Don't **stop loving** even when they have been wronged.
  - v. They Believe for the best in everyone.
2. Love is an inseparable part of God's character.

**1 John 4:7-8 (NLT)**

**C. God's Love must be Accepted.**

1. God desires relationship with us.

2. In order to accept God's love we must be able to forgive ourselves.
  - i. God's love for us is not dependent on our spiritual performance.

**1 John 1:9 (NLT)**

- ii. God looks on our heart.

**D. God's love is intended to be experienced.**

1. You don't have to rid yourself of hurry or worry.
2. God's love can't be contained or constrained by any power in the universe, not evil, not death, no person or power.

**Romans 8:38-39 (NLT)**

3. Ask God to wrap his arms around you in this Christmas.

**E. His love is the pattern for us to love one another.**

**1 John 4:9-11 (NLT)**

1. What does that look like for you this season?
  - i. It should mean giving to someone who has no ability to give back to you in any way.
  - ii. It might mean forgiving someone who has hurt you or apologizing to someone you have hurt.
  - iii. Ask God for an opportunity to share God's love this week. Then keep your heart and eyes open for his response...recognize the opportunity and then act on it.
  - iv. Love someone enough to invite them to our Christmas eve service this weekend.

**Next steps Today I am:**

1. Committing, or recommitting my life to Jesus.
2. Asking God to help me accept His love for me.
3. Asking God for opportunities to share His love.
4. Intending to invite 5 of my unsaved family and friends to the Christmas Eve Service.