



Love
December 24, 2017

Luke 2:11

'Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.'

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one, ⁵ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Love Requires:

1. Commitment

- a. 1 John 4:7-8; Titus 3:3-6

2. Presence

- a. 1 John 4:9; Ephesians 2:10

3. Sacrifice

- a. 1 John 4:10-12; 1st John 3:16

Home/Group Study

Read 1 John 4:7-12

1. Discuss the differences between how our culture defines love and how it is defined here by John?
 - a. What does commitment look like in a culture that is overcommitted?
 - b. What does presence look like in a culture that is absent/distracted?
 - c. What does sacrifice look like in a culture that is 'all about me'?
2. How has love been modeled for you throughout your life? Parents? Grandparents? Extended Family? Church? Friends?
3. How have those models impacted your view of love today? What about the impact on your relationship with God? How have you modeled love for the people in your life?
4. Of the three love 'requirements' is there one you struggle to recognize in God's character? If so, why? What steps can you take this week to explore this characteristic of God?
5. Of the three 'requirements' is there one you struggle exhibiting in your life? Why? Is there someone in your life that does this really well? Write their name down and plan on connecting with them this week to discuss it.