

EXPERIENCING GOD
Kingdom People
Unit 11 1 John 2:2-11
Week 12 November 17, 2019
Pastor Mike Popovich

Our memory verse is 1 John 1:7

If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His son, purifies us from all sin.

When Jesus finds His way into a heart, it changes.
The light of God's love transforms the darkness of the human heart.

LOVE IS AN OLD COMMANDMENT

Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard. 1 John 2:7 NAS

Jews would repeat this verse every day:
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. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 NIV

Here is a verse that records God's instruction at the time of Moses:
Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18 NIV

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19 NIV

LIGHT IN US SHOWS US LOVE

Yet it is always new, and works for you just as it did for Christ; and as we obey this commandment, to love one another, the darkness in our lives disappears and the new light of life in Christ shines in. 1 John 2:8 LIV

When God enters a life and takes up residence His presence is a radiant light that burns the darkness out of souls.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35 NIV

To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will certainly be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure about keeping your heart intact, then give your heart to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully with hobbies and little luxuries. Lock it up safe in the casket of yourself. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken. It will be unbreakable, impenetrable. The alternative to tragedy or at least the risk of tragedy is ultimate damnation. The only place outside of Heaven you can be perfectly safe from the dangers of love is Hell.

C. S. Lewis

LIGHT IN US COMPELS US TO LOVE

Anyone who claims to live in God's light and hates a brother or sister is still in the dark. It's the person who loves brother and sister who dwells in God's light and doesn't block the light from others. But whoever hates is still in the dark, stumbles around in the dark, doesn't know which end is up, blinded by the darkness. 1 John 2:9-11 MSG

What is the love of God in your heart compelling you to do?

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40 NIV

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