

"A Conquering Faith"



Introduction

Pop artist Tina Turner once said, "What 's Love Got to Do with It?" Well as it turns out, without God's love, I don't know where we would be. Love can be "a Many Splendored Thing" if we love the Lord and love our neighbors. Resist the allure of the world and be an overcomer like Christ.

Today's Lesson Objectives

- **Remember** the love of God described by the writer of 1 John
- **Reflect** on the various expressions of God's love in our lives
- **Respond** to the challenge to love others with Christ-like love

Scripture

1 John 4:2-3, 13-17; 5:4-5 (KJV)

Devotional Reading:

John 14:15-24

About Today's Lesson...

It is comforting to know that God loves us unconditionally and completely. This *agape* love demonstrates God's love for all of humankind. This agape love also encompasses our love for God and our love for others. The Bible tells us that God is love. And it is through God's grace - his free gift of lovingkindness - that we have our very being.

In today's lesson, the apostle John seeks to dispel doubts about Christ as he addresses several Gentile congregations. John, being an eyewitness of Christ, was uniquely positioned to give new believers confidence and assurance regarding their faith in God. Many believers had begun to live by the world's standards, becoming uncommitted to their faith in Christ. Additionally, many false teachers had entered the church. So John sought to advise this new generation of believers that they should avoid the heresies of the false teachings and remain steadfast and confident in their faith in Christ. Within his writings to the churches, John helps the believers discern false prophets, tells them of the certainty of their loving relationship with God, and informs them that through faith they can overcome the world.

God's unconditional and complete love for us is profound. Jesus tells us that "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13, KJV). And Romans 5:8 (KJV) says "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us". What a friend we have in Jesus !

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