

# The Reason We Love

1 John 4:7-16

*Focus: we who confess Jesus ought to love one another, for God is love, has shown us love in sending Jesus, and this is how God is seen by others. This Spirit's work of love and faith assures us of our life in God.*

## Resources:

Here is a helpful sermon on our text by John Piper:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-new-birth-produces-love>



## NW's 2018 Priority

*Bought: we belong to Christ!*

we want to ...

- be captivated by the truth that we belong to Christ, that we are His people and...
- be in awe of this privilege...
- respond in willing obedience...
- invite others to join us!

## Discussion:

- Read the passage and list everything you can learn about love from this passage.
- How does this passage provide motivation/fuel for loving one another?
- What application might verse 12 have to do with evangelism? How could that take shape in your small group?
- What assurance do verses 12 and 15 offer us concerning the reality of our faith? (i.e. what marks of a true Christian are mentioned in these verses?)
- How ought this passage affect the way you view God? Why is that important to you/How should that affect you?
- What do you think your response to the consistent exhortation to love one another in 1 John should be? (see 3:11, 16, 18, 23; 4:7, 11) What should love for believers look like in your life?

**Missional Opps!** Challenge your group to love a neighbor well at one of these events!

- Have a neighbor over for dinner or dessert! Yep. That's it!