God Is Love

Ken Chapman · 1 John 4:7–11

INTRODUCTION

- I know who decided that the first day of the week would be a day chosen to contemplate love. God's love for us and our love for God.
- He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.
- If that's what love is and how love is demonstrated, and if God is love, then won't it follow that's what God is?

1 Love Is Long-Suffering, God Is Long-Suffering

2 Peter 3:9

- The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us. Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
- Why doesn't God come and judge us right now?
- Why doesn't he strike me down? It cannot be said because I don't deserve it. But why? Because God is love. And love suffers long.
- I think about how many opportunities God has given me to repent of my sins and to do what is right because God is long-suffering.

2 Love Is Kind, God Is Kind

Ephesians 3:14–21

- Kindness is the idea of love put into action. Love is kind. God is kind.
- Personalize this concept and think of all the ways that God has blessed you.
- Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we could ask or think, according to the power that works in us.
- God is love. Love is kind. And our God is kind. And he's shown us that over and over again.

3 Love Is Not Proud, Not Puffed Up

Philippians 2; John 15:13

- He is better than us. Yet he is not proud.
- He humbled himself, that text tells us, and in a regression, he took the likeness of men. He took the form of a servant.
- God's humility is seen simply in the fact that God would have anything to do with us. Because we're so unworthy.
- Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. Love doesn't seek its own. And God is love.

4 Love Is Not Happy in Iniquity

Micah 7; Psalm 103

- God, because of his humility, because he does not seek his own, because he is love, is willing, more than willing, to eradicate that record of wrongs.
- It says of our God that he delights in mercy. Delights in forgiving.
- As far as the east is from the west, so he's removed our iniquities from us.
- Though he could, our God does not hold a grudge, but he forgives.

5 He's Always Been a God of Love

1 Peter 5:7

- Yes, of righteousness and of judgment and at times wrath, but he's also always been a God of love.
- God was the same then as he is now.
- Yes, there's judgment, there's condemnation, there is wrath, but there's always been mercy and grace.
- Casting all your care upon him, for he cares for you. He cares for us with a never failing love.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Is that me? Am I my father's child? God is love. Am I?**

MY NOTES