



THE MANIFEST LOVE OF GOD

1 John 4:7-21 | Pastor Mohan Zachariah

12/22/2024



Ice Breaker:

What is your favorite part of the Christmas holiday?

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21

Theme: Understanding and applying God's manifest love through Jesus Christ, reciprocal abiding, eternal confidence, and love for others.

Point 1: The Manifest Love of God is Revealed in Jesus (Verses 7-10)

Key Idea: God's love was revealed and made visible through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways do you see God's love revealed in Jesus? How does this impact your understanding of love?
2. Reflect on a time when you experienced God's love in a tangible way. How did it shape your response to others?

Application Challenge: This week, intentionally show Christ-like love to someone who needs to experience God's love.

Point 2: The Manifest Love of God Establishes Reciprocal Abiding (Verses 13-16)

Key Idea: Abiding in God is a mutual relationship where God dwells in us through His Spirit, and we dwell in Him.

Discussion Questions:

1. How can you tell if you are abiding in God and He in you? What are the signs in your daily life?
2. What practical steps can you take to strengthen your abiding relationship with God this week?

Application Challenge: Set aside dedicated time each day this week to intentionally abide in God through prayer, Scripture, or worship.

Point 3: The Manifest Love of God Gives Eternal Confidence (Verses 17-18)

Key Idea: God's perfect love removes fear and gives us confidence in our eternal security through Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you feel confident in your salvation? Why or why not?
2. How does understanding God's perfect love help you face fear or uncertainty in your life?

Application Challenge: Write down one fear or anxiety you need to surrender to God. Pray over it daily and remind yourself of God's perfect love.



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Point 4: The Manifest Love of God Tests My Faith Through Love for Others (Verses 11-12, 19-21)

Key Idea: Our love for others is evidence of our love for God and a test of the authenticity of our faith.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is there someone in your life whom you find difficult to love? How might God be calling you to show love to them?
2. How does the way you treat others reflect your relationship with God?

Application Challenge: Identify one person you've struggled to love. Take one intentional step this week to express God's love toward them.

Closing Reflection and Prayer:

Spend time praying together as a group.

Ask God to help you live out His manifest love in your relationships and interactions this week.

Reflect on this key verse: "We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

Song Suggestion: End your time together by reflecting on or singing O Holy Night.

Takeaway Thought: God's love isn't just a concept—it's a reality revealed in Jesus, lived out through abiding, solidified in confidence, and demonstrated in love for others.