

Why do people who love Jesus also love community (I John 4:7-12)

Introduction

- Give an example of something loving someone has done.
- Which verse proves that it is impossible to be a Christian if you do not love others?
- What is one of the main themes of John's letter?

i The God of love

- What do Christians believe to be the backdrop to the universe?
- Describe the love within the Trinity.
- In what spirit was creation made?
- What is imperfect about the world today?
- What do v7-8 teach about God?
- Where must our definitions of love start?

ii The example of love

- Which verses show us the supreme example of love?
- What did God the Father send Jesus into the world to do?
- What is true of all people?

- Give some examples of sins.
- Why did God the Father send Jesus to die?
- How might you describe a love like this?
- What does John 3:16 tell us we need to do with this outpouring of love?
- Have you done that?

iii The people of love

- What is the first reason why people who love Jesus must be people who love others (in v7-8)?
- In what ways should we be like God?
- What is the second reason why people who love Jesus must be people who love others (in v11-12)?
- What can we not do if we have appreciated the love of God at the cross?
- Give some examples of Christians who have excelled in this sort of love.

Conclusion

- What should you do if you have not responded to God's love?
- What should you do if you call yourself a Christian but do not have a life marked by love?